

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

VOL. 20 No. 947 - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1999

● REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIAN POST ● PUBLICATIONS No. NBQ5726

WEEKLY \$3.00



Marconi's Italian imports Pierluigi Digia and Paulo Marchesini.
Picture by JOHN ECONOMOS

MILLION DOLLAR PLAN

*Marconi Stallions in
all-out attempt to crack
mainstream market*

SPECIAL FEATURE

AUSSIES ABROAD

THE FULL LIST *Plus*
ALL THE TRANSFERS

PAGES 16, 17, 19

By John Economos

The Marconi Stallions will today (Tuesday) unleash an extravagant marketing and promotional campaign—valued at around \$1 million—in a determined drive to lift the club's Soccer profile and home crowds for the coming National Soccer League season.

A marathon schedule of events lasting more than 10 hours has been planned for today's launch.

The huge and glamorous marketing crusade will blast off at 9.30am at 'One World Sport' down at Sydney's picturesque Darling Harbour.

The Marconi Stallions will unveil their new name, new Soccer emblem, new playing strip as well as introduce their new coach and former Australian international striker, Eddie Krncevic.

Marconi has contracted the high profile marketing company, Stenmark, to boost Marconi's overall Soccer profile.

Hopefully for Marconi, the intensive and extensive marketing campaign will instigate a stampede of new Soccer fans cramming into Marconi Stadium which is based in the heart of Australia's biggest population growth area—Sydney's sprawling south-western suburbs.

For the new season starting on October 1, Marconi's home matches have been switched from their traditional Saturday nights to Sundays.

First grade will be kicking off at the family-friendly time of 6pm.

In another serious attempt to boost home crowds, the Marconi Stallions have recently signed up on full-time contracts, two highly experienced Italian imports in 31 year old midfielder Pierluigi Digia and 27 year old striker, Paulo Marchesini.

After the One World Sport function, guests will be shuttled back to the lavish Club Marconi social club for lunch and entertainment in the Elettra Restaurant.

Here, the club's numerous sponsors will be officially acknowledged.

Continued on page 3

Issue No.947

Published every Tuesday by
Foreign Language Publications
at Pty Ltd
5-13 Garners Ave.,
Marrickville NSW 2204

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Overseas: \$180

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FLP Pty Ltd. 5-13 Garners Ave,
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Tel: (02) 9562-0500

VICTORIA:

FLP Pty Ltd. 72-78 Gipps Street,
Collingwood. 3066.
Tel: (03) 9486-9522
Fax: (03) 9486-9858

QUEENSLAND:

Queensland Newspapers Campbell St,
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Tel: (08) 8218-9329

WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

Pan Hellenic Emporium,
67 James Street, Perth WA 6000.
Tel: (08) 9328-4779

Recommended and maximum price.
\$3.00

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◆ Deadline for contributions, articles
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issue date.

POWER LAUNCH

New NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE club PARRAMATTA POWER last week held their first official function — a luncheon for the media to be introduced to the players, coaching staff and officials.

PICTURES by JOHN ECONOMOS



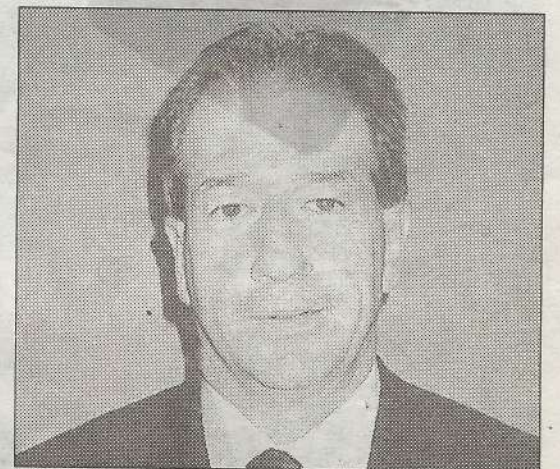
Denis Fitzgerald, chairman of Parramatta Power and managing director of Power's major backer, Parramatta Leagues club.



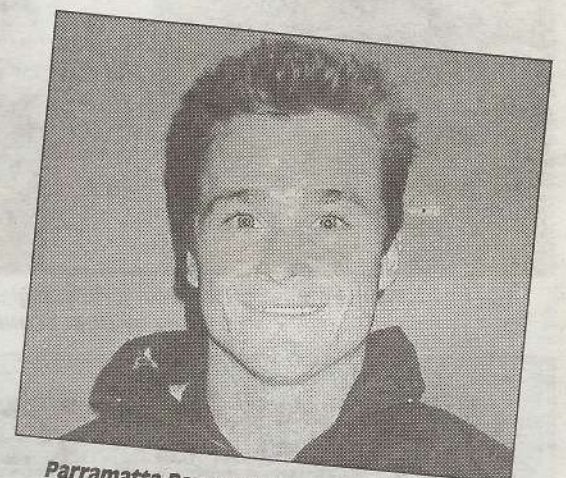
(Left to right) Parramatta Power public relations assistant Erin Pope, Power assistant coach and marketing manager Lawrie McKinna, Power coach David Mitchell and Power media manager Trish Sinclair



(Left to right) Power defender Richard Plesa, Power coach David Mitchell, master of ceremonies and rugby league commentator Ray Hadley and Power assistant coach Lawrie McKinna



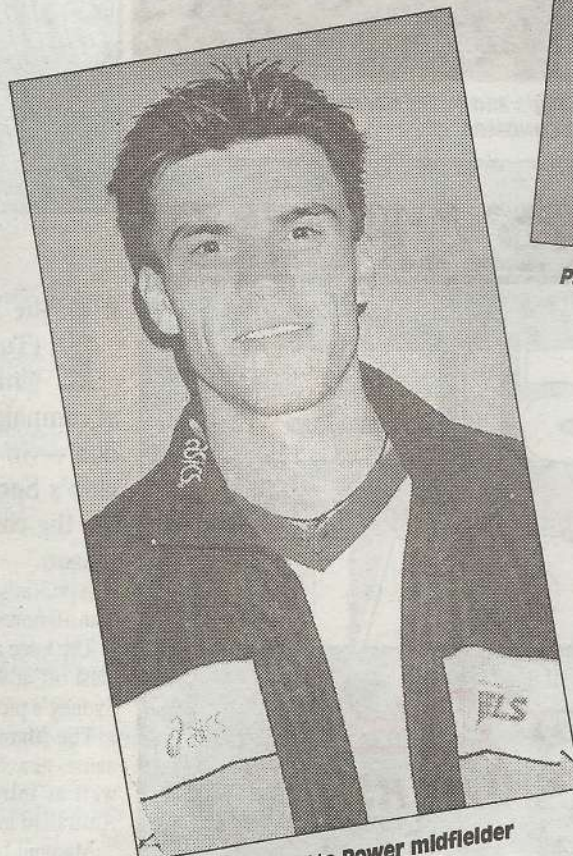
Parramatta Power general manager Brad Levy



Parramatta Power striker Danny Townsend



Parramatta Power striker Mile Sterjovski



Parramatta Power midfielder Milan Blagojevic

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BLANCO PREPARES FOR KUWAIT TONIGHT

By John Economos

Australia's Sydney 2000 Olympics team tonight (Tuesday) plays the second match of its 12 England training camp — against Kuwait's Olympic side.

The Australian Olympic coach Raul Blanco last night spoke to ABSW from his Hotel near Watford just outside of London.

He said: "We are very keen to meet Kuwait here. The Kuwaitis will guarantee us a very tough battle as it will be their final preparation game before they play their last Asian qualifiers for the Sydney Olympics.

"Kuwait has to meet Saudi Arabia and Qatar and beat them both to be able to get to Sydney next year.

"So you can imagine the very high importance the Kuwaitis will be giving this match against Australia.

"The Kuwait Olympic team has already arrived in London and are really geared up to face us."

Australia plays Kuwait this afternoon (Tuesday) London time (midnight AEST) at the Borehamwood Stadium near Watford which is home ground of a non-league team.

After carefully inspecting the pitch for tonight's match, Blanco had nothing but high praise for it as it was ever-so-well grassed and manicured.

However Blanco emphatically refused to be drawn into making any comments regarding Harry Kewell's once-again failure to turn up for an Australian training camp.

All he would say was: "No, we have had no

contact from him at all. I wish not to make any remarks on this subject in what has now become something like a soap opera, in 'he said this' and 'we said that'."

However, Blanco did confirm that West Ham's talented Chris Coyne amazingly did attend the Australian camp despite still recovering from a knee injury.

"The spirit in our training camp here is very high. The players' attitudes have been nothing short of excellent. Every single player wants to play and do very well for Australia.

"Every squad member has exhibited great pride in his daily training sessions which has pleased me.

"Each single player fully comprehends that come the Sydney Olympics, only a final squad of 18 will be selected.

"So you can imagine the extremely keen attitude and input I'm being given by all of them. They all very well understand the very hard job that lies ahead of them."

When questioned about who were some of Australia's stars in the match against Southampton, Blanco refused to single out anyone.

"I will however tell you that the English media here rated highly the performances of Hayden Foxe, Nick Rizzo, Lucas Neil and Billy Damianos.

"I was very concerned only by Australia's efficiency and fluency as a unit.

"It was 1-1 at the break and it was not an easy game, but Australia grew in confidence as the match went into the second half.

"Yes I was pleased as they clicked up a gear or two as the match went on."

On a much lighter note however which forced Blanco into small mirth, he stated: "I can't believe the absolutely marvellous weather we've experienced since our arrival in England. It's been just so fantastic.

"Getting a sun tan in London seemed to me to be a mission impossible.

"Yet we've had temperatures around the 25 to 27 degree mark almost daily."

Having worked the squad so strenuously since the camp commenced early last week, Blanco treated his Olympic squad by taking them to see England thrash Luxembourg 6-0 last weekend.

"It was a solid performance by the England team, despite the opposition," Blanco said.

"But people like Alan Shearer showed real class."

Following the 1-4 thrashing Australia's Olympic team dished out to Southampton last week, Blanco is prepared to line up a now highly confident Australia with an adventurous 5-2-3 formation to push his side to the very edge.

Australia's likely Olympic line-up for tonight's clash with Kuwait, is:

Goalkeeper: Danny Milosevic.

Defence: Lucas Neil, Con Blatsis, Hayden Foxe, Steve Laybutt, Tansel Basser.

Twin-Midfielders: Marco Bresciano, Billy Damianos.

Attack line: Brett Emerton, Daniel Allsop, Nick Rizzo.

The Australian Olympic squad is expected to arrive back in Sydney very early this Saturday morning.

OLYROOS TOO GOOD FOR SAINTS



Nick Rizzo: One of the many players who impressed against Premier League side Southampton.

Australia's Olympic team emphatically defeated England Premier League side Southampton 4-1 in the first of two games played as part of their European Camp in England.

Striker Kosta Salapasis lifted Australia on the scoreboard as early as in the 17th minute, following a Hayden Foxe free kick which had been parried by the Southampton goalkeeper.

Southampton, who fielded six of its regular first grade line-up, equalised four minutes later, but the Australians were ahead again two minutes into the second half when captain Brett Emerton broke down the right, crossed to Lucas Neil whose left footed drive beat the keeper.

With coach Raul Blanco using the game to experiment with almost his entire squad, substitute Daniel Allsop took just five minutes to make his mark after coming on in the 55th minute for Salapasis. Allsop headed home a ball from Nick Rizzo to put the 3rd goal on the board on the hour mark.

A few minutes later Rizzo was again in the action, taking an Australian corner which was nodded down by a Southampton defender, but straight into the path of sweeper Hayden Foxe who netted Australia's fourth and final goal.

The Australian line-up was as follows:

D Milosevic (P Zois 46th), L Neil (R Bove 75th), C Blatsis, H Foxe, S Laybutt, T Baser, J Culina (M Bresciano 55th), B Damianos (M Robertson 78th), B Emerton (C Zane 78th), K Salapasis (D Allsop 55th), N Rizzo (J Burns 75th).

Australia 4 (K Salapasis 17th, L Neil 47th, D Allsop 60th, H Foxe 65th) defeated Southampton 1

Continued from page one

Mr Tony Labbozzetta, Club Marconi's long serving president, said to ABSW last night: "Our marketing and promotional people have meticulously planned a very big day for Tuesday (today).

"Merchandising has received a high priority. All up, our Soccer marketing and promotional activities will cost around the \$1 million mark this season. This will give Soccer a real shot in the arm.

"[The Marconi Stallions] will be advertised extensively on commercial radio, taxis, buses...the works."

"It's now time to implement these marketing strategies. We are in particular targeting young fans and we will be distributing in excess of 100,000 pamphlets around Sydney which will no doubt create an extensive awareness about Marconi. "It will be like a big splash, if you like. It will awaken a lot of people."

Club Marconi's newly appointed Director of Marketing, Ms Donna Sowry, said to ABSW: "We have targeted a vast catchment area that takes in Southern Districts and Macarthur [soccer districts].

"We have planned for Tuesday night (tonight) inside the Marconi Stadium starting at 6.30pm, a spectacular fireworks display and a free barbecue where all the kids can meet the Marconi players. "We have over 5,000 showbags to give away so I urge all kids parents in the area to turn up."

"Radio 2WS will be doing live crosses from Marconi Stadium during the evening. "We have already done over 100,000 letter drops in an 11 kilometre radius of Marconi Stadium in promoting tonight's events."



INDOOR SOCCER (FIVE A SIDE) ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W. INC.

INVITES

TEAMS FROM SYDNEY, CENTRAL COAST AND WOLLONGONG TO PARTICIPATE IN THE

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SILVER SHIELD (A/A Division One)

CADET SHIELD (U/18)

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\$3,000* PRIZEMONEY**
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SEMI-FINALS & FINALS TO BE HELD AT STATE SPORTS CENTRE, HOMEBUSH

ENTRIES CLOSE 30 SEPTEMBER 1999

For more information and Nomination Forms please contact The Manager, Indoor Soccer (Five-A-Side) Association of NSW, PO Box 6024, BLACKTOWN BUSINESS CENTRE NSW 2148. Phone 9629 1800 or 0414 430 047. Details also available from the New South Wales Soccer Federation, Meurants Lane, Glenwood.



Leichhardt Tigers Soccer Club Inc.

*Trials for Cadets, Youth League, Under 18s & Under 21s
(1st Grade by invitation only)*



Cadets

venue (Leichhardt Oval No.2, Glover St, Leichhardt)

Under 11

Sat.9th October 1pm
Sat. 16th October 1pm
Sat. 23rd October 1pm
Sat. 30th October 1pm

Under 12

Sun. 10th October 3pm
Sun. 17th October 3pm
Sun. 24th October 3pm
Sun. 31st October 3pm

Youth League

venue (Leichhardt Oval No.2, Glover St, Leichhardt)

Under 13

Sat.9th October 9am
Sat. 16th October 9am
Sat. 23rd October 9am
Sat. 30th October 9am

Mon. 11th October 6pm
Mon. 18th October 6pm
Mon. 25th October 6pm
Mon. 30th October 6pm

Under 14

Sat.9th October 11am
Sat. 16th October 11am
Sat. 23rd October 11am
Sat. 30th October 11am

Tues. 12th October 6pm
Tues. 19th October 6pm
Tues. 26th October 6pm
Tues. 2nd November 6pm

Under 15

Sun. 10th October 9am
Sun. 17th October 9am
Sun. 24th October 9am
Sun. 31st October 9am

Thurs. 14th October 6pm
Thurs. 21st October 6pm
Thurs. 28th October 6pm
Thurs. 4th November 6pm

Under 16

Sun. 10th October 11am
Sun. 17th October 11am
Sun. 24th October 11am
Sun. 31st October 11am

Fri. 15th October 6pm
Fri. 22nd October 6pm
Fri. 29th October 6pm
Fri. 5th November 6pm

Under 18s

Venue — Lambert Park, Marion St, Leichhardt

Fri. 17th September 6.30pm
Fri. 24th September 6.30pm
Fri. 1st October 6.30pm

Sun. 19th September 10am
Sun. 26th September 10am
Sun. 3rd October 10am

Under 21s

(Players who consider themselves as 1st grade applicants are invited to attend these Under 21s trials)

(Venue — Lambert Park, Marion St, Leichhardt)

Tues. 14th September 6.30pm
Tues. 21st September 6.30pm
Tues. 28th September 6.30pm
Tues. 5th October 6.30pm

Thurs. 16th September 10am
Thurs. 23rd September 10am
Thurs. 30th September 10am
Thurs. 7th October 10am

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES PLEASE PHONE LEICHHARDT TIGERS INFO LINES

(02) 9565 2299 (7 lines — 24 hrs) or 0419 407 400 (mobile)

THE GOOD OIL ... ALL THE NEWS

Bobby Robson, England's former World Cup manager, as predicted only by 'Good Oil' in the last edition, has now officially been appointed as Newcastle United's new boss following the sudden resignation of incumbent Dutch manager Ruud Gullit.

The very well liked Robson created a sensation back in 1978 when rocked Wembley Stadium by steering his little and very young Ipswich Town to win the most coveted F.A.Cup Final.



Bobby Robson: Newcastle United's new manager.

Marconi's two Italian imports, 31 year old midfielder Pierluigi Digia as well as the 27 year old striker Paulo Marchesini, have finally been signed by the giant Sydney club following two weeks of exhaustive trials.

The Club's new coach Eddie Krncevic stated to 'Good Oil': "With their professional back ground of having served at clubs such as Parma, Bologna, Inter, Venezia and Tolentino, I'm sure they'll both prove to be an asset to our squad."



Eddie Krncevic: Marconi's new boss.

Nathan Day, Sydney United's steely striker with the 'Telstra'-side levers, is back in Adelaide seeking a club.

It's believed that the lanky Day and his new wife had become homesick for South Australia.

By John Economos

Marconi has planned a huge marathonic promotional day for today (Tuesday), starting at 9.30am and going through till 8pm at three different venues.

Kicking off the very long day is the 'Stenmark Organisation', the new marketing company contracted by Club Marconi.

They have planned an almost two hour 'Season Launch' at 'One World Sport' down at Darling Harbour starting at 9.30am.

Here Marconi's new name, new strip, new logo as well as new coach Eddie Krncevic will be unveiled to the 'stampeding' media scrum.

At 12.3pm but back at the 'Palace', Marconi will stage it's twice yearly sumptuous Sponsors' Luncheon where the Club's long serving and most valued financial backers will be wined, dined and entertained.

Mid afternoon the Marconi Season Pass Holders will be catered for whilst at 6pm inside the Marconi Stadium a special Bar B Q will be held where all of the Marconi Juniors will be in attendance to meet the senior Marconi NSL squad.

SBS TV as from last Sunday, has commenced presenting the world's richest and most glamorous Soccer league, Italy's Serie A.



Paul Williams: SBS' ace commentator.

Every Sunday morning at 10.30am, the Super Soccer channel will screen the 'Italian Soccer League' programme, a comprehensive package of highlights from the week's fixtures.

This action packed programme enables Australian fans nationwide to monitor the weekly form of super stars of the calibre of Paul Okon, Peruzzi, Christian Vieri, Ronaldo, Roberto Baggio, Gabriel Batistuta, Alessandro Del Piero, Zinedine Zidane and George Weah.

Will AC Milan be able to defend the 'Scudetto' it so narrowly snatched at the end of last season from Lazio's grip?

Come Sunday October 3rd and just one hour after the 'Italian Soccer League', SBS-TV's 'On The Ball Programme' returns to the Super Soccer Channel.

Les Murray, the Channel's Head Of Sport will again lead the informative Soccer panel of former World Cup captain Johnny Warren, SBS presenter Kyle Patterson plus polished commentator Paul Williams.

Germany's Under 17s squad is expected to arrive in Sydney mid November for a 10 day training camp during which time they hope to play two matches in friendly hit outs.

The Germans will set up base at the NSW Soccer Federation's headquarters at Parklea.

Peter Katsambanis, the sitting Member for Monash Province, last week presented an \$8,000 grant to the South Melbourne Soccer Club as part of the Victorian Government's 'Vicsafe Start Youth Sport Role Model Programme'.

The grant will enable Souths to stage coaching clinics and workshops that focus on schools in both



Lee Sterrey: Newcastle Breakers' coach.

rural and metropolitan areas.

Souths' star midfielder David Clarkson has already been appointed to co-ordinate the wonderful programme and organise the clinics for the kids.

Jeff Kennet's Victorian Government has committed a further \$200,000 this year to this innovative crime prevention campaign aimed at making greater use of positive sporting role models to encourage young people to become actively involved in sport.

The 'Vicsafe Start Youth Sport Role Model



Nathan Day: Heading back home.

Programme' mirrors the Government's powerful commitment to increasing young people's participation in sport and recreation.

In part with Souths' involvement, Kennett's Government aims to achieve crime prevention strategies that will ultimately help to score for young

people a substantial impact on reducing youth related crime and destructive behaviour.

Newcastle Breakers have scheduled further trials with a friendly hit out against Sydney United on Sunday September 19th.

The two matches will be played at the Sydney United Sports Centre, the Youth game starting at 1pm and the seniors kicking off at 3pm.

The Breakers have also pencilled in another friendly, this time against Lee Sterrey's old club, Marconi. This game will take place this Saturday (September 11th) with kick off set down for 6pm with the Youth match starting at 4pm. Both matches will be played at Macquarie Field at Speers Point.

Mark Bosnich, if you can believe the British Mpress, is about to be dislodged from his 'goalkeeper's throne' at Manchester United.

Late last week United unexpectedly signed from Venezia, Italy, 29 year old custodian Massimo Taibi for a stated fee of some \$11.3 million.

And are we to be led to believe that the very Australian and flamboyant Bosnich will just hand over the gloves?

If anything, that fighting Aussie spirit will only flare up Bosnich which should develop into, 'now the gloves are off' to the incoming Italian.



Mark Bosnich: Will not surrender his gloves.

THE GRAND FINAL OF 'THE CARTY AND FORSYTH MEMORIAL CUP' between Wollongong City and Sydney Olympic will be played on Sunday September 19th at the Parramatta Stadium. Kick off is set down for 5pm.

The curtain raiser at 3pm for the Playoff for third spot will be between hot arch rivals Marconi and the Northern Spirit.

At 1pm the NSW Police Soccer team takes on the Victorian Police.

Andrew ('the Birch') Bernal, currently in England with Reading, could soon be on the move.

Bernal's former team-mate Jimmy Quinn is now manager at Swindon Town and has approached 'the Birch' to make a move.

After a long period of suffering with injuries to both of his knees, the former Sydney Olympic international mobile defender has only one year of his contract left with Reading, the outfit he joined from Olympic almost four years ago.

Parramatta Power already has hit a winner, despite the new National Soccer League season still having some 30 days to go before lift off.



THE GOOD OIL ... ALL THE NEWS

Already installed to serve in the Power's Soccer Public Relations department, is the most vivacious and dynamic duo of Ms Trish Sinclair and Ms Erin Pope.

Both of these super efficient, as well as being stunners, have been operating the P.R. of Parramatta's Rugby League arm. Now these twin lovelies have been upgraded to move into the Soccer side of operations. A huge welcome aboard

●●●



(left) Ms Trish Sinclair with Ms Erin Pope.

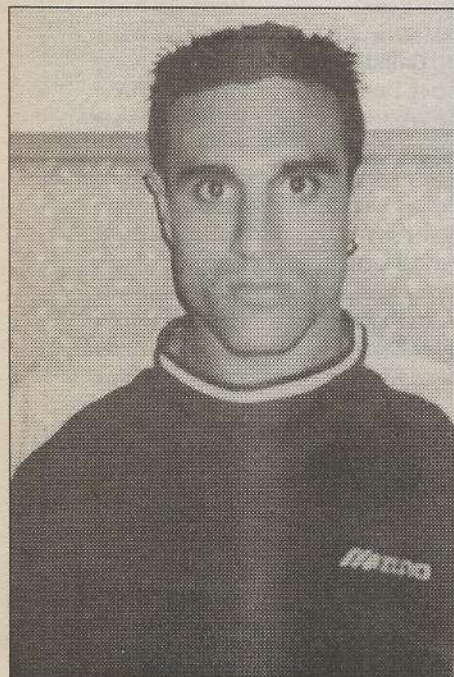
Jimmy Kourtis, Sydney Olympic's goalkeeper, is back to his very best as he starred last Sunday at Marconi Stadium in the 'Carty Forsyth Memorial Cup' semi against the Marconi Stallions.

Olympic's coach Branko Culina stated after the match: "Jimmy is a quality goalkeeper and always has been. "Today again he showed it as he steered us to victory over Marconi."

●●●

David Mitchell, Parramatta Power's coach, is expected to finish off his new signings late this week.

To date Big Mitch has nailed down 17 members on contract to his squad.



Andrew Bernal: Could soon be on the move in England.

By the end of this week Mitch expects to finalise his squad with another two contracts, with some seven very eager trialists sweating till then.

Meanwhile the Parramatta Power will play a challenge match on Thursday night (Sept 9th) against the Penrith Panthers first grade side at

By John Economos

7.45pm.

In a bid to thank the Soccer community in Western Sydney, for its support to the Power to date, the Power team will give out to its 26,000 Junior Soccer players in the district the opportunity to receive a Free Season Ticket.

All players Under 16 and who play for the Nepean Soccer Association will receive a form from their respective clubs over the next 10 days with the relevant information required to register for their free Season Pass.

●●●

The National Soccer League could very soon be about to announce a new major sponsor.

The announcement when made should easily break the \$1million p.a. mark.

●●●

Wollongong City last Sunday defeated a gallant Northern Spirit 1-0 in the semis of the pre-season 'Carty and Forsyth Memorial Cup' at the Marconi Stadium in the first match of a double header card.

Fijian international athletic striker Esala Masi hit a 25 metre screamer in the 18th minute that proved fatal to the Spirit.

The late match had finished in a 1-1 deadlock



David Mitchell: Expects to complete his signings this week.

between Marconi and Sydney Olympic. But Olympic went through to the Final on a 5-4 penalty shoot out after Olympic's goalkeeper Jimmy Kourtis, (an accountant by trade), to his credit swung the balance with a spectacular block to deny Marconi's excellent sweeper Pan Kuen Kim any joy.

During normal time Marconi's stopper Dominic Longo drew first blood in the first session with a glancing header following a free kick on the left. But Olympic's elegant striker Pablo Cardozo nailed the equaliser from the left with a lethal left footed drive that crashed into the far corner to lock up the scoreboard.

Marconi's new Italian import striker Paulo Marchesini during the penalty shoot out, calmly scored the best goal with a very clever, yet unorthodox effort.

Olympic's goalie Jimmy Kourtis with a reputation as being a great penalty saver, again delivered the goods to lift Olympic into the Grand Final at the Parramatta Stadium on Sunday week..

●●●

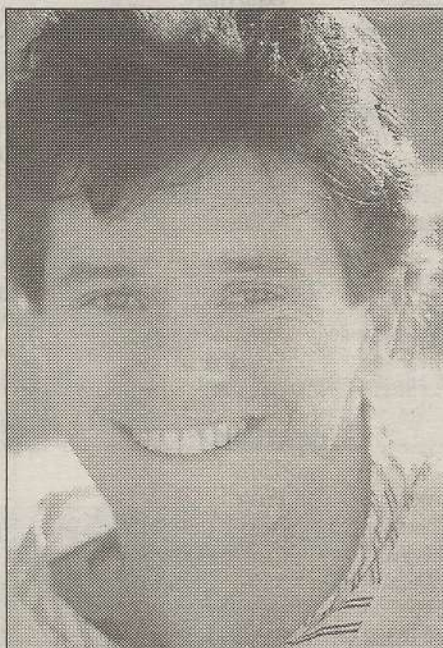
Pierluigi Digia, Marconi's 31 year old central midfielder, when questioned by 'Good Oil' last week-end as to just what he thinks of Australian

Soccer from what he's seen since arriving in Australia two weeks ago, wisely observed: "It's far too early for me to pass on judgement.

"It looks tough out there. But what I do like, is the great harmony between all the Marconi squad players shown at training plus in the friendly matches we've played to date.

"This is most important for quality players to be able to do the job properly. "If there is no harmony, for whatever reason, then the job can't be done."

●●●



Clayton Kearney: Sydney Olympic's new sprint coach.

Australia will face BRAZIL come November 14th in Sydney and again three days later in Melbourne. So what's new?

Well Australia's Under 17s (the Joeys) as well will clash with Brazil, but in New Zealand at roughly the same time as the senior Aussies.

Les Schienflug's Under 17s clash with Brazil in the opening match of Group C of the bi annual World Under 17s Championships to be staged in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Having qualified for the Championships early last week by knocking out Bahrain in Bahrain, Australia's Under 17s take on Brazil on November 12th (at 13:45 hours) then back up two days later to clash with the Germans (at 16:00 hours).

The Under 17s play their final match in Group C against African qualifier Mali on the 17th November (at 18:15 hours).

●●●

Tony Labbozzetta, Club Marconi's long serving president presented a cheque for \$35,000 to Microsearch for the first Club Marconi Soccer Fellowship to enable each year for an overseas surgeon to be trained at Sydney's Microsearch Institute at Lane Cove.

This year the selected surgeon invited to Sydney for highly specialised training over one year, is Hungarian Dr Andras Gal from Budapest.

Australia's micro surgeons have pioneered, and become world famous for this highly specialised area of surgery.

●●●

Sydney Olympic has contracted a specialised sprint coach in Clayton Kearney, a former sprint champion himself.

Olympic has done this as part of their continued development of future National Soccer League stars.

The 35 year Kearney who has raced against Carl Lewis, Linford Christie and Ben Johnson, will concentrate on Olympic's Academy (Under 17s) team in the National Youth League.

●●●



FAIRFIELD BULLS

SUPER LEAGUE

Be part of this progressive club in year 2000 and beyond

Under 18 & 21 Trials

Trials will be held on the following days:

For Under 18

Tuesdays 14th, 21st and 28th September

For Under 21

Thursdays 16th, 22nd and 29th September

All trials will be held at Nineveh Soccer Field 673-683 Smithfield Road, Edensor Park

STARTS AT 7.00PM

For further details contact

Sam Isaac on 9354 3083 or

John Mckie on 0414 549 673

Players for 1st grade contact

Joe Watson on 0414 782 352 or

Lenny Isaac on 0412 591 511



One of the most progressive Soccer Clubs in the Bankstown Soccer Association, Padstow Hornets, requires the services of a Premier League Coach for the 2000 season and beyond.

The successful applicant will possess a level 2 or level 3 Coaching Certificate and have a strong desire for success.

Initial phone enquiries can be made with the Club President, Ron Milne on

0419 488 808.

Address written applications to:

The Secretary

Padstow Hornets Soccer Club Inc.

P.O. Box 158

PADSTOW NSW 2211

Terms and conditions will be negotiated at the time of interview.



HAJDUK WANDERERS SOCCER CLUB

COACHES WANTED

Join the most successful club in the 1998 and 1999 Season Applications are invited for the following coaching positions.

STATE LEAGUE

U18s, U21s and First Grade

YOUTH LEAGUE

U13s, U14s, U15s and U16s

CADET LEAGUE

U11s and U12s

GOALKEEPER COACH

Applications to be sent to the Secretary P.O. Box 200, Pendle Hill 2145.

For further enquiries contact:

Charles Abdilla 0416 171 896

(w) 9757 2906

Applications close 21st September 1999

ERICSSON CUP TRANSFERS

THE OFF-SEASON MOVES SO FAR

Adelaide Force

New players	From
Aurelio Vidmar	Sanfrecce Hiroshima, (Jap)
Ivan Zelic	Canberra Cosmos
Corey Artone	Adelaide Sharks
Danny Vidakovic	Adelaide Sharks

Departures	To
David Terminello	Carlton
Travis Dodd	Newcastle Breakers
Dino Mennillo	Auckland Kings
Bradley Armour	Adelaide Sharks
Mark Yates	Adelaide Sharks
Damian Stam	White City Woodville (SA)
Daniel Menechella	Campbelltown City (SA)
Andy Leane	Cumberland (SA)

Adelaide Sharks

New players	From
Michael Brooks	Wollongong Wolves
Peter Blazincic	Northern Spirit
Bradley Armour	Adelaide City
Mark Yates	Adelaide City

Departures	To
John Gibson	Parramatta Power
Corey Artone	Adelaide Force
Alex Castro	Canberra Cosmos
Danny Vidakovic	Adelaide Force
Richard Alagich	South Melbourne
Hamilton Thorpe	Perth Glory
Nathan Wildy	released
Paul Souris	released
Derek Poimer	released
David Miller	released

Auckland Kings

New players	From
Marcus Stergiopoulos	Carlton
Dino Menillo	Adelaide City
Gavin Wilkinson (NZ)	Perth Glory
Ricky Van Steedan (NZ)	Carlton
Jason Batty (NZ)	Singapore
Chris Jackson (NZ)	Napier (NZ)
Harry Ngata (NZ)	North Shore (NZ)
Fred DeJong (NZ)	Central (NZ)
Robbie Middleby	Bayer Uerdingen (Ger)
Ivan Vicelich (NZ)	Central (NZ)

Departures
N/A

Brisbane Strikers

New players	From
Paul Foster	Northern Spirit

Departures	To
Kasey Wehrman	Perth Glory
Steve Laybutt	Parramatta Power
Andrew Packer	Carlton
Chris Zoricich (NZ)	Sydney Olympic
Craig Williams	released
Andrew Harper	released
Glenn Kolpak	Canberra Cosmos

Canberra Cosmos

New players	From
Alex Castro	Adelaide Sharks
Gordon Hunter (Sco)	Hibernian (Sco)
Brian Hamilton (Sco)	Ayr United (Sco)
Glen Kolpak	Brisbane Strikers
Jason Polak	South Melbourne
Daniel Watkins	Northern Spirit

Departures	To
Peter Buljan	Perth Glory
Ivan Zelic	Adelaide Force
Lindsay Wilson	Sydney Olympic
Anthony Magnacca	South Melbourne

Norman Kelly (N Ir)	Released
Amiraldo Miglietti (Por)	Released
Doug Marcina	Released
Leo Langone	Released
Dale Wingell	Released

Carlton

New players	From
Craig Deans	Perth Glory
David Terminello	Adelaide Force
Dave McPherson (Sco)	Hearts (Sco)
John Markovski	Perth Glory
Angelo Motsiopoulos	Victorian Institute of Sport
Mike Conroy (Sco)	Blackpool, (Eng)
Andrew Packer	Brisbane Strikers
Steve Martin	Carlton juniors
Stuart Slater (Sco)	Watford (Eng)

Departures	To
David Cervinski	Wollongong Wolves
Marcus Stergiopoulos	Auckland Kings
Marco Bresciano	Empoli (Ita)
Ricky van Steedan (NZ)	Kings FC

Gippsland

New players	From
Sandy Robertson (Sco)	Dundee Utd (Sco)
Doug Marcina	Canberra Cosmos
Mehmet Durakovic	Sydney Olympic
Michael Katz	Gippsland Youth
Johnathon Buhagiar	Gippsland Youth

Departures	To
Claudio Canosa	Released
Billy Mitroulis	Released
Peter Di Iorio	Released
Chris Ball	Released
Levant Osman	Released

Marconi-Fairfield

New players	From
Paulo Marchesini	Italy
Pierluigi Digia	Italy
Harry Karl	Melbourne Knights

Departures	To
Luke Tomich	Newcastle Breakers
Marcus Phillips	Sydney Olympic
Ante Covic	Paok Salonika (Gre)
Robbie Hooker	Released

Melbourne Knights

New players	From
N/A	
Departures	To
Tom Pondeljak	Sydney United
Zoran Markovski	Green Gully (Vic)
Damian Vojtek	St Albans (Vic)
Sonny Sevin	Green Gully (Vic)
Ice Kutlesovski	Released

Newcastle Breakers

New players	From
Travis Dodd	Adelaide Force
Luke Tomich	Marconi-Fairfield
Vas Trpceviski	Perth Glory
Robert Angevski	Sydney United
Chad Mansley	Newcastle juniors
Joshua Ferguson	Newcastle juniors
Paul Wheeler	Newcastle juniors
Peter Juchniewicz	Newcastle juniors

Departures	To
Peter Ritchie	released
Robert Shannon (Sco)	released
Sang Chul Yoon (Kor)	released
Fouad Umlil (Mor)	released
Tony Bauer	released
Joshua Stick	released
Joshua Maguire	released

Northern Spirit

New players	From
David Seal	Northampton, (Eng)
Shane Lyons	Coventry (Eng)
Jess Van Stratten	NSW Institute of Sport
Simon Catanzaro	NSW Institute of Sport
Elvis Olic	Northern Spirit juniors
Jack Sobczyk	Northern Spirit juniors
Ryan Griffiths	Northern Spirit juniors
Tony Faria	Northern Spirit juniors
Adam Griffiths	Northern Spirit juniors
Adam Snyder	Northern Spirit juniors

Departures	To
Kresimir Marusic (Cro)	Lommel (Bel)
Eddy Bosnar	Sydney United
Gabriel Mendez	Sydney Olympic
Peter Blazincic	Adelaide Sharks
Daniel Watkins	Canberra Cosmos
Paul Foster	Brisbane Strikers
James Stubbs-Mills	Released
Adem Poric	Released



Mehmet Durakovic: moving from Sydney Olympic to help Gippsland's hopes this season

Parramatta Power

New players	From
Milan Blagojevic	Sydney Olympic
Jon Angelucci	Blacktown City (NSW)
Liam Reddy	Australian Institute of Sport
Matt Thomson	Macarthur Rams (NSW)
Damon Langan	Blacktown City (NSW)
Jacob Burns	Sydney United
Mile Sterjovski	Sydney United
Joel Griffiths	Sydney United
Danny Townsend	Sydney United
Joe Vrkic	Sydney United
Richard Plesa	Sydney United
Steve Eagleton	Sydney United
Michael Santalab	Sydney United
Steve Berry	Sydney United
David Barrett	Sydney United
Barney Smith	Sydney United
Walter Ardone	Sydney United
Mike Gibson	Sydney United
Daniel Kukucka	Sydney United

Departures
N/A

Perth Glory

New players	From
Peter Buljan	Canberra Cosmos
Ivan Ergic	Australian Institute of Sport
Kasey Wehrman	Brisbane Strikers
Dion Valle	Macarthur Rams
Hamilton Thorpe	Adelaide Sharks

Departures	To
Danny Hay (NZ)	Leeds United (Eng)
Craig Deans	Carlton

Gavin Wilkinson (NZ)	Auckland Kings
Paul Strudwick	Retired
John Markovski	Carlton
Vasco Trpceviski	Newcastle Breakers
Michael Garcia	Released
Gianfranco Circati (Ita)	Released
Anthony Carbone	Sorrento (WA)

South Melbourne

New players	From
Anthony Magnacca	Canberra Cosmos
Richard Alagich	Adelaide Sharks

Departures	To
Jason Polak	Canberra Cosmos
Michael Petkovic	Strasbourg (Fra)

Sydney Olympic

New players	From
Zlatko Arambasic	Mechlen (Bel)
Marcus Phillips (Eng)	Marconi-Fairfield
Lindsay Wilson	Canberra Cosmos
Gabriel Mendez	Northern Spirit
Chris Zoricich (NZ)	Brisbane Strikers
Paul Kohler	Sydney Olympic juniors
Lee Miot	Sydney Olympic juniors
John Kyriazopoulos	Sydney Olympic juniors
John Karoubas	Sydney Olympic juniors

Departures	To
Milan Blagojevic	Parramatta Power
Leo Carle	St George
Carlos Gonzalez	DC Ourense (Spa)
George Sorras	Retired
Mehmet Durakovic	Released
Mark Brennan (Eng)	Released
Kimon Taliadoros	Released
Elias Augerinos	Released

Sydney United

New players	From
Eddy Bosnar	Northern Spirit
Tom Pondeljak	Melbourne Knights
Mirko Jurilj	Jurong (Sing)
Vince Savocca	Leichhardt Tigers (NSW)
Kain Rastell	Macarthur Rams (NSW)
Nahuel Arrarte	NSW Institute of Sport

Departures	To
Jacob Burns	Parramatta Power
Mile Sterjovski	Parramatta Power
Joel Griffiths	Parramatta Power
Danny Townsend	Parramatta Power
Joe Vrkic	Parramatta Power
Richard Plesa	Parramatta Power
Steve Eagleton	Parramatta Power
Michael Santalab	Parramatta Power
Steve Berry	Parramatta Power
David Barrett	Parramatta Power
Barney Smith	Parramatta Power
Walter Ardone	Parramatta Power
Mike Gibson	Parramatta Power
Daniel Kukucka	Parramatta Power

Wollongong Wolves

New players	From
Neil Harlock	New Zealand
David Cervinski	Carlton
Alvin Ceccoli	AEK Athens
Peter Lahanas	Apollon (Gre)

Departures	To
Sebastian Sinozic	released
Raymond Younis	released
Michael Brooks	released
Damon Langan	Blacktown City (NSW)
Steve Karavatakis	Leichhardt Tigers
Gerard Quennett (Tah)	Released
Benoit Michelena (Tah)	Released

STADIUM IMMINENT

Australia's best supported team will finally have home of its own

By Richard Kreider

The much awaited news on the construction of a purpose-built stadium for Western Australia sports fans has finally arrived.

The WA State Government has selected three applicants from an initial seven to prepare a detailed proposal to build a soccer and rugby stadium together with a Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (PCEC).

When that magical day arrives, Perth will get to see how popular the world game really can be in the west. "I'm certain the news from the Tourism Minister Norman Moore will be well received by both the soccer and rugby fraternity and similarly by the broader community in general," said Glory deputy chairman Paul Afkos.

"Both sports are growing at a good rate and the stadium will further enhance that growth as well as bring the two sports closer to the international arena," he said.

It is believed the stadium will also accommodate other sports such as lacrosse and baseball.

The minimum mandatory requirements for the PCEC are: a 2,500-seat meeting area, a separate 2,500-person banquet facility, 12 to 14 break-out rooms with a total capacity of 2,500 people, 20,000 square metres of exhibition space, a minimum of 600 car parking bays, a stand-alone theatre and a central city soccer/rugby stadium.

According to a report by independent consultants, the PCEC is projected to inject \$2.2 billion into the Western Australian economy in its first 10 years.

The short-listed applicants are Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd, Multiplex Consortium and Nexus Consortium. Each applicant has indicated that the PCEC will be operational in the first half of 2002, while Perth Glory deputy chairman Paul Afkos has announced the stadium could be ready by mid-2001.

Perth Glory will be involved in the design of the complex, which Afkos indicates will be spectator friendly and with a particular emphasis on the family.

The Government was offering an extra



(Left to right) Strikers Bobby Despotovski and Alistair Edwards model Perth Glory's new home strip at the club's season launch. Incredibly, 1200 orders were taken even before new strip sponsor Cappe released the new design. Picture by RICHARD KREIDER.

incentive of up to \$10 million and Crown land for the successful applicant to build the stadium as part of the project. This could mean a saving of at least \$30 million.



It was estimated that it would cost the State Government at least \$40 million to build the stand-alone stadium.

Mr Moore said each of the seven applicants had shown they could have provided a high quality convention and exhibition facility for Perth.

Cabinet had decided to incorporate a 19,000-seat stadium into the PCEC project because there were synergies that would result in significant savings for the State.

The 19,000-seat stadium was regarded as a first stage, with provisions to expand its capacity to 30,000 seats.

Cabinet has also endorsed an expert panel's assessment of the opportunities and constraints of three preferred Crown land sites in the city.

The Northbridge site, which was adjacent to Wellington Street, west of the horseshoe bridge to the Freeway, and the Mounts by Road but port and car park site, were both preferred over the Perth Concert Hall forecourt/Riverside Drive car park site.

Afkos believes Perth Glory will be the head tenant of the stadium and will encourage the formation of a management committee.

"It's our vision the multi-purpose stadium will encourage visits from our Asian neighbours," said Afkos who also believed participating countries in the 2002 Korea and Japan soccer World Cup could pay a visit during their preparations for the tournament.



(Left to right) Defenders Vinko Buljubasic, Jamie Harnwell, midfielder Gareth Naven, wing-back Robert Trajkovski and midfielder Scott Miller model Perth Glory's new away match strip. Picture by RICHARD KREIDER.



SUTHERLAND SHIRE JUNIOR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

REPRESENTATIVE COACHES

JUNIOR LEAGUE

UNDER 11 AND 12

YOUTH LEAGUE

UNDER 13, 14, 15, 16

Applications are invited in writing, stating qualifications and experience.

Addressed to:

The Secretary

S.S.J.S.F.A.

P.O. Box 188

Gymea NSW 2227

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1999



PARRAMATTA EAGLES SOCCER CLUB

In Partnership with

PARRAMATTA POWER

CADETS AND SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS FOR THE YEAR 2000 SEASON

Under 11 & Under 12:

Sunday 10th, 17th and 24th October

Starting Time: 9.00 a.m.

Under 13:

Monday 11th, 18th and 25th October

Under 14:

Tuesday 12th, 19th and 26th October

Under 15:

Wednesday 13th, 20th and 27th October

Under 16:

Thursday 14th, 21st and 28th October

Starting Time: 6.00 p.m.

LOCATION: Everley Park, Everley Road, Chester Hill (Off Ferndell Street) outside Melita Stadium

For further details

Ring (02) 9645 4413



SYDNEY OLYMPIC SFC TRIALS 2000 SEASON CADET LEAGUE AND SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE

GRADES 11, 12 AND 13

Saturdays 4th, 11th and 18th September

11s and 12s — 10.00am

13s — 11.30am

Wednesday 15th September 6.00pm

GRADES 14, 15 AND 16

Saturdays 16th and 23rd October — 10.00am

Wednesday 20th October — 6.00pm

P. Katholos & A. Lambropoulos

Trials will be conducted at Potts Park Rookwood Rd, Yagoona under the guidance of ex-Socceroo coach Frank Arok.

COACHES:

11s Peter Katholos

12s Sam Trinity

13s Savvas Karavellas

14s Peter Satti

15s Alex Lambropoulos

16s Nick Poniris

For further information please contact Paul Andriotis on (02) 9586 0966.

FAMOUS PHOTOS



ANTHONY SARONIKAS, 16, with Sydney Olympic's technical director and former Socceroo coach Frank Arok. Anthony, from Greenacre in Sydney, plays striker for the Sydney Olympic under-16 team in the NSW Super Youth League.



GEMMA MACRAE with Socceroo and Leeds United star Harry Kewell. Gemma, 13, plays striker for Pitttown Pirates' mixed under-14 team which is based in the north-western outskirts of Sydney. The picture was taken at the Fox Sports Soccer Clinic at Hunters Hill High School in June 1999.



REID McNALLY with Northern Spirit goalkeeper Paul Henderson at a Northern Spirit coaching clinic earlier in the year. Reid is also a goalkeeper and he plays in the NSW Division One youth league under-14 competition for AC United which is based in Sydney's south-western suburbs.

Have you had your photo taken with someone famous in soccer? Even if it happened years ago, you can have the photo published in ABSW.

Send photos to:

The Editor
Australian and British Soccer Weekly
PO Box 155
Marrickville NSW 2204

**All photos will be returned within three days of receiving them.*

Letters to the Editor

More junior soccer, please

Dear Sir,

I would like to take the opportunity to say that we have the ABSW delivered weekly and I have taken notice of the changes you have implemented since taking over as Editor.

Keep up the good work, as at one stage we were seriously considering cancelling our weekly copy.

One suggestion that I have is that you may want to think about increasing the paper's coverage of junior soccer, you would be surprised at the number of parents that turn to the local junior coverage first!

(Mrs) Sue McNally,
Werrington County, NSW



How to contact us

This page is available for the news and views of ABSW readers.

Send correspondence by:

Email: soccerweekly@hotmail.com

Fax: (02) 9550 9332

or Mail

PO Box 155

Marrickville NSW 2204

Please include day-time phone numbers for verification purposes.

Use Grahame Park

Dear Sir,

The new and controversial Grahame Park Stadium, Gosford will finally be ready by December.

Built specifically for Rugby League there has been some talk that an occasional NSL match could also be played there.

While the Newcastle Breakers have been mentioned I would have thought that Northern Spirit could benefit most from it.

Transferring one or two of the less attractive home matches from North Sydney to Gosford during January the peak holiday season could be lucrative.

The cost of preparing North Sydney Oval for soccer is burdensome. This cost would be eliminated because Grahame Park has all the facilities Spirit need and more, as standard.

The novelty value and holiday population should ensure a large crowd.

The operators of Grahame park would surely welcome an approach by Spirit at this time of year.

Meanwhile, on another subject, it is a good thing that we have at least one Oz soccer historian.

However accurate information is essential and in the case of Joe Marston's career credits there was one glaring omission.

Joe did rejoin the Leichhardt-Annandale club in 1955 but in 1958 the Leichhardt club folded.

Joe along with some (but not all) of the ex Leichhardt players then joined the APIA club a very prominent Sydney club then where he played on with great distinction until retiring from soccer.

Today APIA goes under the name of Leichhardt Tigers and is only a NSW State League club.

The only tenuous connection between the defunct Leichhardt Annandale club and APIA now Leichhardt Tigers came about when APIA took over the lease on Lambert Park in 1959 when Leichhardt folded.

Both clubs also operated in many of the same suburbs which was purely coincidental.

R. Melor,
Bondi, NSW.

No more excuses

Dear Sir,

I have been a great admirer of the vastly talented young Harry Kewell since his debut for the Socceroos back in 1997 against Iran.

However, I feel he is letting himself down if he wants to represent Australia in the Olympic games, but won't make himself available for the lead-up preparation games for the Olyroos.

Regardless of whether his club Leeds United wanted him to make himself available or not, when the local domestic competition over there is suspended due to "Euro 2000" qualifying games being played, there is no excuse whatsoever.

Even if he is injured, he should still be on the sidelines or with the Olyroo squad for morale purposes.

As good a player as he is, he can't have his cake and eat it to, or the glory without any sacrifice.

No player is bigger than the game, so unless he makes himself available in future for all Olyroo warm-up games when his club is having a break from football, he should be given the flick by the selectors and Raul Blanco for next years Olympics.

There are plenty of young hungry talented strikers to fill his position without any problems to team harmony and morale and who are prepared to put in the hard yards before hand.

Also with three over aged players available for next year's Olympic Games, it leaves his omission from next year's Olympic squad even easier to handle without weakening the squad

greatly.

There should be a line drawn in the sand, so everyone knows where they stand should they cross over it without a legitimated excuse.

Many a hot shot, or red hot favourite National team has come undone over the years throughout the world due to player disharmony have big egos out of control. For there is an old saying in team sports, that is "a champion team will always beat a team of champions."

So let's nip it in the bud before it gets out of control, with hard and fast rules for everyone without exceptions.

Dominic Scullino,
Nerang, Qld.

Waste of Money

Dear Sir,

Reading lately that three major companies pay an arguably "dying" code (Rugby League) a total of \$15m, one has to question the business sense of their management.

Obviously their executives must be former 'boofheads' and not economically educated.

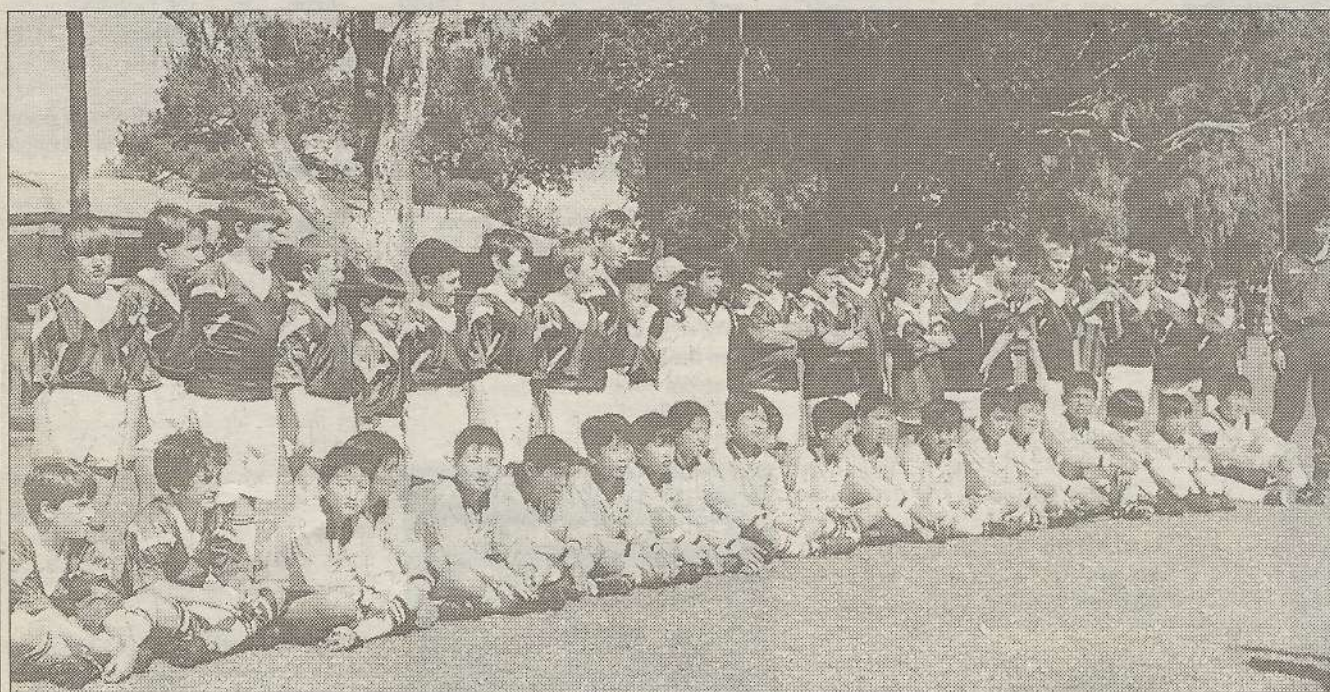
There are world wide football sports attracting enormously more interest and

viewing people which will increase the paper circulation and TV ratings which is all important these days.

Instead the public is flooded with irrelevant 'village sports' items of so called 'super stars' of Rugby League, more like 'meat heads' as commonly effectively called.

Otto Bader,
Warilla, NSW.

Sister club relationship celebrates 15 years



(Pictures by Richard Kreider)

The Perth-based Belmont Junior Soccer Club and Japan's Adachi Primary School Soccer club recently celebrated the 15th anniversary of their 'Sister Club' agreement.

The agreement involves one club hosting the other every two years. This year it was Adachi's turn to visit Australia. Their under 9 and 10 teams played against their Belmont counterparts. The Japanese kids were in Perth for a week and were billeted by the families of the Belmont players.

Australian Features



This week on Guest of the Week, we have the man whose task it is to engineer Carlton Soccer Club's success on and off the field, well into the next millenium. Please a big Four Diegos welcome to general manager of the Carlton Soccer Club, Lou Sticca.



Diegos: "The Blue boys have returned from a tour of China, where the aim was to establish friendly links with the locals.

The emphasis was on friendly, but when your hosts made the team play in an electrical storm on water logged pitch and then offered you free martial arts lessons in another game, some may have questioned just how friendly the whole experience really was.

Was the tour a success and are the boys over their electrical shock and karate chop bruises?"

Sticca: "It was a success. It certainly wasn't a friendly tour in that we went there to play some serious games and importantly, that's exactly what we got. The major purpose was to get the boys moulded into a tight knit unit. From that point of view I think our aims have been achieved. "The couple of wins that we had were bonuses."

Diegos: "Any of the Carlton boys particularly impressive?"

Sticca: "I think the two Andrews shone. Andrew Marth had a fantastic tour. He was back to the Marth of a couple of years ago and a young kid that we recruited from Brisbane, Andrew Packer, looks like he is going to be a stand out for us this year."

Diegos: "We love the way Andrew 'Stabber' Marth re-enacts the 'Shower Scene from Psycho' week in week out on the pitch for the Blues. How did he perform in the melees on the China tour?"

BRAVEHEART BLUES AND TEAM BONDING

Sticca: "Very well — he got sent off. He was certainly true to form."

Diegos: "Do you think that the various all-in 'Have a go you mug' oriental martial art dust-ups the boys were involved in on tour has helped bond the players?"

Sticca: "Yes it was fantastic in that regard. You never condone violence but to see the boys defend one of their own in the heat of battle is very encouraging."

Diegos: "The rumour is that there is the strong smell of boiling haggis emanating from the Carlton change-rooms nowadays, since the arrival of new Scottish coach, Stuart Munro and star recruit, Scottish international, Dave McPherson.

"There is a distinct British feel to the squad for the coming season. Has that been a deliberate recruiting ploy and will Carlton be known as the Braveheart Blues this season?"

Sticca: "Why not — we've been called plenty of other things. Obviously early on in the club's life, we were very successful on the park. We played a good fast attacking style of soccer. I suppose from a marketing point of view, we didn't lend ourselves to the city as a whole though.

"If you look at Northern Spirit, they've

year, but it seems that Carlton may be meeting the 'Red Devils' in the courts over the reckless challenge.

"Is the club still pursuing the issue legally?"

Sticca: "We still are talking to our legal representation. At this stage we haven't

"Did it take much for both parties to reconcile and how is he looking at the moment? Is he the 'Jonsey' of old?"

Sticca: "Well I think we've all lost our keys from time to time, only to find them a few months later. I just want to declare that I have found the key to the padlock. Having said that, it is no secret that John

'I just want to declare that I have found the key to the padlock'

got people like Robbie Slater and Graham Arnold, whilst our names were slanted too much towards the multicultural aspect.

"From a marketing point of view, to have a couple of names like Douglas, McPherson, Conroy, Packer, mixed in with the long standing Dean Anastasiadis' of this world, I think gives us much more of a Melbourne feel.

"People who mightn't go to the soccer as regularly as others will find it easy to get their tongues around the names. I suppose there has been a deliberate push to Anglo Saxonise the squad. At the end of the day, I think from a team perspective, what the British will add is tremendous experience and team spirit.

"We are not hiding from the fact that we have lacked a little bit of British steel in the past. This year we will have a very good blend."

Diegos: "What were the contract negotiations like? Did you have to employ 'Taggart' as an interpreter?"

Sticca: "I just finished a three-year course with Jack Reilly, so I'm pretty adept at the strong accent.

"Stuart's been in the country now for over 12 months and he has lost some of his Scottish accent. They are all good lads and very good fun. I'm certain that they will be real crowd favorites."

Diegos: "During the recent Manchester United tour, yourself and the club came out very strongly over the Andy Cole tackle on Simon Colosimo.

"South Melbourne may have to play Manchester United on the field in the World Club Championships later in the

determined whether we will pursue it further. The most encouraging news that we have received is that Simon's recovery is moving along very well. He has given himself a target of being back on the park in February of next year. From our point of view that is much more important than any legal proceedings."

Diegos: "Do you ever feel like doing that Elvis Presley thing, and shoot the TV every time Manchester United comes on the screen?"

Sticca: "No, I've got nothing but respect for them. On the other hand what did happen to Simon was very unfortunate and I feel for the kid and the club."

Diegos: "Using your own words, 18 months ago the door to John Markovski's future at Carlton was padlocked shut.

"We're not sure whether he has picked the lock, climbed through a window or slid down the chimney, but he's back.

and I had a falling out.

"I'd like to think that we are both big men. My attitude is very simple, if he can help the Carlton Soccer Club improve its on-field performances that can only be good for the club.

"When we heard that he was available we snapped him up. John and I have put aside our differences for the betterment of the club."

Diegos: "Since the inception of the club, the biggest downer has been its inability to consistently draw big crowds.

"Is it a concern and what's the grand plan to get fans flocking to Olympic Park this season?"

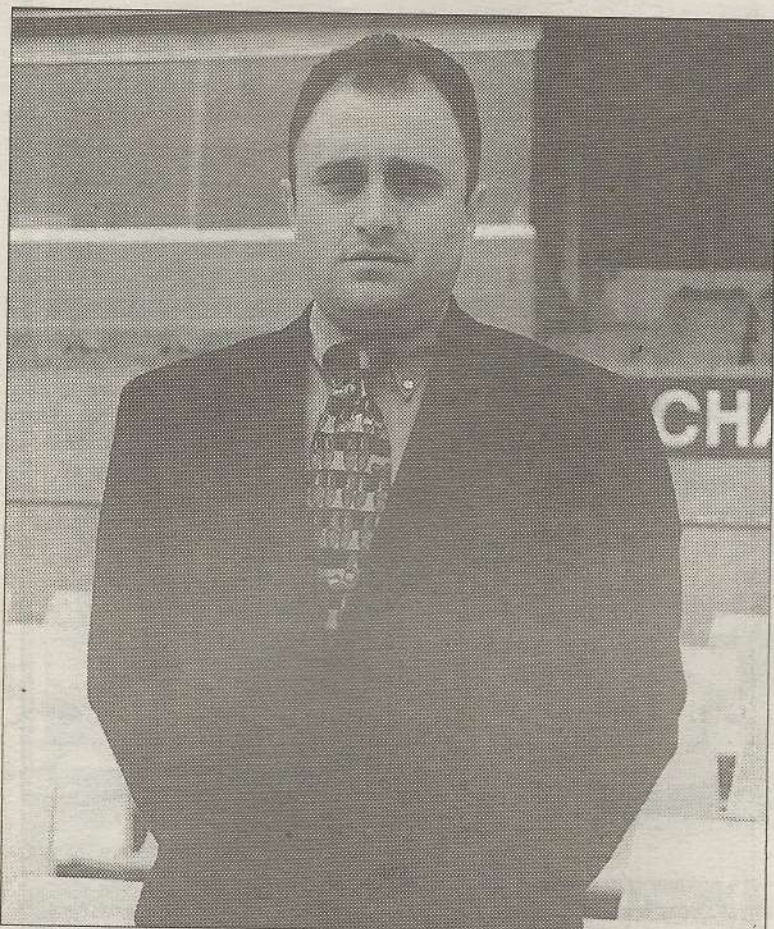
Sticca: "First of all we are going to have to spend some serious money marketing.

"That's an area where we have not spent money on in the past. Having said that, playing on a Friday night under lights at Olympic Park, given our new recruiting drive, I think will send a very clear message that we are serious and building a team to be reckoned with.

"All this, we anticipate, will result in a dramatic improvement in the crowds. It's also up to the sports public of Melbourne. If they want a soccer team, now is the time to come out and support us."

Diegos: "Thanks Lou. Let's hope you enjoy a successful season and your new-found diet of boiled haggis. Adios Amigo!"

Sticca: "Thanks Diegos. The boiled haggis is great, it's getting used to this dam kilt that's the problem. Adios Diegos!"



Lou Sticca: Carlton's general manager.

The Four Diegos' are radio celebrities and soccer scribes on Melbourne's Stereo

97.4 FM

Saturday 10 am -

12 midday.

E-Mail 'The Diegos' on

FourDiegos@bigpond.com

AUSSIE HEROES

Junior team reach final of major international tournament



BACK ROW: Left to Right: John Curran (Coach), Artin Saginlan (central midfielder), Mark Knapton (striker), Michael Pearson (right striker), Brian Davis (manager), Harry Morgan (left striker), Mat Clowes (striker), Brett Townley-Jones (left defender), Bryan Cokely (assistant coach). **MIDDLE ROW:** Left to Right: Tony Carbone (central midfielder), Stephen Nelligan (right midfielder), Dallas Watkins (central defender), Nathan Moulds (captain, central defender), James Chircop (central defender), Mark Williams (right defender). **FRONT ROW:** Left to Right: Paulo Oliveira (left midfielder), Michael Rhodes (goalkeeper), Luke Paneccaslo (goalkeeper), Chad Lewis (central midfielder). **NOT PICTURED:** MAISE SQUADRITO WHO WAS HEAD OF THE FUNDRAISING AND ORGANISING COMMITTEES.

By Anthony Raineri

A suburban soccer team from north-western Sydney has produced one of Australian soccer's greatest international achievements by reaching the final of a prestigious youth tournament in Europe.

The Gladesville Hornsby Association Soccer Club went all the way to the ultimate match in the Gothia World Youth Cup in Sweden's Gothenburg.

The Gothia Cup is the largest youth soccer tournament in the world and this year attracted 1250 teams from 65 countries.

Gladesville Hornsby competed in the Under-16 boys division which boasted 117 teams including England's Liverpool FC, French club Bordeaux and Romania's Steaua Bucharest.

The Gothia Cup celebrated its 25th anniversary and the tournament is so highly regarded in Europe that Italy's Lazio played a pre-season friendly match in its honour.

To reach the final, Gladesville Hornsby had to play an amazing nine matches in five days on three different surfaces against teams from seven countries.

Australia's sole representatives were drawn in Group 14 and they won their matches 7-0, 5-3 and 5-0 (see panel).

The knockout phase began with a tough 1-0 victory in torrential rain, which waterlogged all the fields.

Consequently, Gladesville Hornsby had to play their next two matches on a red ash surface, which is similar to a clay tennis court.

Despite never previously playing on such a surface, the Australians won 6-0 and 1-0. This last match against Barcelona team CE

Europa was Gladesville Hornsby's second most difficult of the tournament.

Gladesville Hornsby coach John Curran said he had never seen such a rough junior match.

"They were a very good side," he said. "But unfortunately they wanted to mix it rather than play. The game had to be stopped twice and they had a player sent off."

The 2-1 quarter-final triumph over Scotland's Ayr United was played on synthetic grass which the Australians also had never played on.

The penultimate match was staged on the same day and it ended up being a hard-fought 1-0 win over the Dallas Texans.

"Winning the semi-final was like winning the grand final," assistant coach Bryan Cokely said.

Unfortunately, Gladesville Hornsby were unable to record one last victory. They lost

the final to Bolivia's famed Tahuichi soccer academy 3-0.

The final was played on a Saturday afternoon in front of a crowd of about 10,000 at the Ullevi Stadium, which is the home ground of Swedish First Division side IFK Gothenburg.

Two nights earlier, Lazio had played IFK at the same stadium and two days before that, Tottenham Hotspurs had taken on a Swedish select team.

Both matches were played in front of capacity 40,000 crowds.

The Tahuichi Academy is one of South America's most famous soccer nurseries.

At the recent Copa America — which is South America's equivalent to the European Championship — half the Bolivian squad were Tahuichi graduates.

Tahuichi have won 55 major international youth tournaments during its 20-year existence.



John Curran, assistant coach Bryan Cokely and team manager Brian Davies with the runners-up trophy.

GROUP MATCHES

GH v Nodinge SK (Swe) 7-0

GH v IFK Eskilstuna (Swe) 5-3

GH v Akra IL (Nor) 5-0

KNOCK-OUT STAGE

ROUND 2

GH v Colombia Uni Cobras (USA) 1-0

ROUND 3

GH v Refrith-Frankenfo (Ger) 6-0

ROUND 4

GH v CE Europa (Spa) 1-0

QUARTER-FINAL

GH v Ayr United (Sco) 2-1

SEMI-FINAL

GH v Dallas Texans (USA) 1-0

FINAL

GH v Tahuichi Academy (Bol) 0-3

WARM-UP GAMES

GH v Rangers Under-16s (Sco) 1-5

GH v Hearts Under-16s (Sco) 3-1

GH v Aberdeen Under 16s (Sco) 3-3

One of their players who confronted Gladesville Hornsby — the cousin of Bolivia's 1994 World Cup star Mario Etcheverrey — was in the process of signing for an Argentinian First Division club for \$3 million. Another player was last week chosen in the senior Bolivian national team.

Gladesville Hornsby held out Tahuichi until 10 minutes after half-time. Tahuichi players and officials had rated the Australians their toughest opponents of the tournament.

Before the Gothia Cup, Gladesville Hornsby played three warm-up matches in Scotland and achieved excellent results.

Firstly, the Australians took on Glasgow Rangers' under-16s — which contained five Scotland under-16 representative players — and lost 5-1.

Gladesville Hornsby then travelled to Edinburgh where they defeated Hearts of Midlothian's under-16s 3-1. Hearts' head scout John Murray was so impressed by the Australians, he made enquiries about six of the players.

The Australians' last match was a 3-3 draw with Aberdeen under-16s.

The three-week trip of a life-time was the culmination of months of fundraising and organising.

Players and officials raised \$78,000 through dinner dances, auctions, golf days, coaching clinics, sponsorship, trivia nights, raffle tickets and chocolate drives.

The money paid for accommodation, meals and travel.

"We are a good team without outstanding individuals," coach Curran said. "We had to work hard for all our results. The experience of playing overseas for the boys was invaluable."

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

DIVISION TWO GRAND FINAL

Hajduk Wanderers celebrated back-to-back Grand Final victories when they outclassed a gallant Sydney University 6-0 in the 1999 Second Division season finale at St George Stadium.

The league's runners-up, Hajduk, who did not concede a goal during the finals series and peaked at the very end of the season, made heavy weather of some clear-cut first half chances before eventually taking the lead in the 27th minute.

Stylish midfielder and captain J J Ellul

was allowed to ghost in at the far post to power home a header from Jack Costello's corner on the right, after a desperate clearance moments earlier by the overworked Sydney University defence.

Trent Worrall and Shane Crampton each missed two golden opportunities before the headed goal broke the deadlock, but the Hajduk defence was untroubled for most of the game and the midfield was well on top as well.

Goals early in the second half, by Costello and Trent Holmes, put an end to

the students' hopes, with further goals from Damien Brown and Crampton and a 6th goal late from Ellul turning it into a bit of a rout at the finish.

Uni keeper Matt Crow was a very busy man and his constant exposure led to him conceding the penalty, put away by Crampton to bring up the fifth goal for the victors.

Hajduk also won the Under 21s 2-1 over Hills United, with Mount Druitt claiming the Under 18 prize with a win on penalties, also over Hajduk.

SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE FINAL SERIES

GRADE 13

In the Major Semi Final there was to be no upsets when the Blacktown City Demons took on the Wollongong Wolves for a place in the Grand Final.

The Demons were unbeaten in the 30 rounds of soccer they played during the regular season, and they advanced to that Grand Final with a 3-1 win over the Wolves.

Wollongong will therefore face the Newcastle Breakers this weekend, as the Breakers edged past Sydney Olympic 1-0 to end their opponent's season for 1999.

GRADE 14

The Gladesville Hornsby Association is the first team into the Grand Final in the

G14 competition after they had a great 2-1 win against Sydney Olympic.

With Sydney United defeating the Blacktown City Demons 4-1 in the Minor Semi Final this weekend's Preliminary Final sees Sydney Olympic take on Sydney United, with the winner playing the association side in the Grand Final.

GRADE 15

The Major Semi Final between the Blacktown City Demons and Marconi Fairfield went right down to the wire, after normal time and then extra time couldn't separate the two teams.

It was 1-1 in normal play so the match went to penalties, and there it was the Demons who prevailed to advance to the

Grand Final.

The Minor Semi Final though matched that, as the Gladesville Hornsby Association and Southern Districts also finished 1-1 at the end of the game.

That too went to penalties, and in this one it was the Southern Districts who won through to face Marconi Fairfield in this week's Preliminary Final.

GRADE 16

Sydney Olympic easily moved into the Grand Final after winning their Major Semi Final match with the Newcastle Breakers 3-0. The Breakers now face a tough battle in the Preliminary Final, as they will play Blacktown who just edged out the Leichhardt Tigers 2-1.

DIVISION TWO: GRAND FINAL

FIRST GRADE: Hajduk Wanderers 6 bt Sydney University 0.

UNDER 21: Hajduk Wanderers 2 bt Hills United 1.

UNDER 18: Mt Druitt 1 drew Hajduk Wanderers 1 (4-2 Penalties).

DIVISION THREE: PRELIMINARY FINAL

FIRST GRADE: Western Sydney Lions 1 drew White City 1 (White City 2 bt Western Sydney Lions 1 Extra Time).

SECOND GRADE: The Wanderers 0 drew Hakoah 0 (4-3 Penalties).

DIVISION FOUR: MAJOR SEMI FINAL:

FIRST GRADE: Prairiewood United 2 bt Balmain 0.

SECOND GRADE: Holy Cross Ryde 3 bt Nepean District 1.

MINOR SEMI FINAL

FIRST GRADE: Holy Cross Ryde 3 bt Granville Greenisland 1.

SECOND GRADE: Prairiewood United 2 bt Balmain 1.

DIVISION FIVE: MAJOR SEMI FINALS

FIRST GRADE: Kellyville Kolts 1 drew Sporting SCC 1 (Kellyville Kolts 2 bt Sporting SCC 1 Extra Time).

SECOND GRADE: Kellyville Kolts 9 bt Sporting SCC 6.

Division One Youth League Preliminary Finals at Popondetta Park

GRADE 13

League leaders Illawarra had crashed last weekend in the Major Semi Final against the Bankstown Association, but they can get revenge now in the grand Final after defeating the Blacktown Association 2-0 in the Preliminary Final.

GRADE 14

Penrith Panthers defeated the Bonnyrigg White Eagles 2-1 in last Saturday's Preliminary Final, which means they will face Ryde City in the Grand Final this coming weekend.

GRADE 15

AC United will be hot favourites to take the G15 Grand Final, and they watched as the Bonnyrigg White Eagles defeated Hills United 2-0 in the preliminary Final.

AC United led the league from start to finish and will take some beating in the Grand Final.

GRADE 16

The Blacktown Association will face their opponents from the Major Semi Final, the Bankstown Association, in the Grand Final after defeating the Stanmore Hawks 3-0 in the Preliminary Final.

MINOR SEMI FINAL

FIRST GRADE: Kosciusko 1 bt UTS 0.

SECOND GRADE: Sydney Tusc 2 bt Liverpool Olympic 1.

WOMENS SUPER LEAGUE: GRAND FINAL

FIRST GRADE: Marconi Fairfield 3 bt Sutherland Sharks 1.

UNDER 21: Marconi Fairfield 1 bt Sutherland Sharks 0.

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE

GRAND FINAL: Manly Warringah 2 bt Wollongong Wolves 0.

FIRST GRADE: UNDER 19: Manly Warringah 2 drew Wollongong Wolves 2 (Manly Warringah 3 bt Wollongong Wolves 2 Penalties).

SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE - FINAL SERIES

MAJOR SEMI FINAL: G/13: Blacktown City 3 bt Wollongong Wolves 1. G/14: Gladesville Hornsby 2 bt Sydney Olympic 1. G/15: Blacktown City 1 drew Marconi Fairfield 1 (3-1 pen). G/16: Sydney Olympic 3 bt Newcastle Breakers 0.

MINOR SEMI FINAL: G/13: Newcastle Breakers 1 bt Sydney Olympic 0. G/14: Sydney United 4 bt Blacktown City 1. G/15: Gladesville Hornsby 1 drew Southern Districts 1 (3-5 pen). G/16: Blacktown City 2 bt Leichhardt Tigers 1.

DIVISION ONE YOUTH LEAGUE - FINAL SERIES:

PRELIMINARY FINAL: G/13: Illawarra Lions 2 bt Blacktown Assoc 0. G/14: Penrith Panthers 2 bt Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1. G/15: Bonnyrigg White Eagles 2 bt Hills United 0. G/16: Blacktown Assoc 3 bt Stanmore Hawks 0.

DIVISION TWO YOUTH LEAGUE - FINAL SERIES:

GRAND FINAL: G/13: Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 1 bt Nepean Association 0 (extra time). G/14: Mt Pritchard 3 bt Macquarie Sports 0. G/15: Parramatta City 3 bt Hajduk Wanderers 1. G/16: Nepean Association 2 bt Camden Tigers 1 (extra time).

CADET LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

MAJOR SEMI FINAL: Canterbury M'Ville 0 drew Sydney United 0 (4-5 Penalties). **UNDER 12:** Parramatta Eagles 2 bt Sydney United 1 (Extra Time). **MINOR SEMI FINAL:** Marconi Fairfield 4 bt St George 0. **UNDER 12:** Marconi Fairfield 1 bt St George 0.

CADET LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

PRELIMINARY FINAL: UNDER 11: Illawarra Lions 2 bt Penrith Panthers 0.

UNDER 12: CSI Schofields 2 bt Macquarie Sports 1.

Division Two Youth League Grand Final at St George Stadium

GRADE 13

The G13 Grand Final saw the Nepean Association, who finished top of the table play the Ku-ring-gai Association. The Nepean Association would have fancied their chances after defeating their opponents in the Major Semi Final, but neither team were able to score in normal time.

The game went to extra time therefore, and it was the Ku-ring-gai Association who nipped in with the winner to take the game 1-0.

GRADE 14

There was nothing between the Macquarie Sports and Mt Pritchard in the league, and it was the Macquarie Sports who won their Major Semi Final two weeks ago to advance into the Grand Final.

Mt Pritchard therefore played last week in the Preliminary Final and defeated the Camden Tigers 2-0, so all signs were for a tight game in the Grand Final.

GRADE 15

It didn't work out that way though, as it was Mt Pritchard who took the honours, winning 3-0.

There was another surprise in the G15 Grand Final, with Hajduk Wanderers expected to defeat Parramatta City after winning the league and also the Major Semi Final between the two teams.

Once again though, it counted for nothing as Parramatta City came away with the Grand Final courtesy of a 3-1 win.

GRADE 16

Another Grand Final that couldn't be settled within normal time, as the Nepean Association and Camden Tigers finished 1-1.

The game then went to extra time, and it was the Nepean Association who grabbed the winner in that extra period and took the game 2-1.

Cadet League Division One Final Series

GRADE 11

The Major Semi Final between Canterbury Marrickville and Sydney United at Cook Park could not have been any closer, with Sydney United eventually winning 5-4 on penalties, after the game had finished 0-0 after extra time.

That means Sydney United go straight into the Grand Final, while Canterbury Marrickville will now face Marconi Fairfield, who easily disposed of St George 4-0 in the Minor Semi Final.

GRADE 12

There was another close game in the G12 Major Semi Final, with the Parramatta Eagles defeating Sydney United 2-1 after extra time to advance to the Grand Final.

They will now play the winners of the Preliminary Final between Marconi Fairfield, who beat St George 1-0 in the Minor Semi Final, and Sydney United, who will play this Sunday.

Cadet League Division Two Preliminary Finals

GRADE 11

The Illawarra Lions will face the Macquarie Sports G11 team in this weekend's Grand Final after the Lions got through their Preliminary Final match against the Penrith Panthers.

Played at Popondetta Park, the Lions got through 2-0 to secure their Grand Final berth, although they know they will face a stiff task against the Macquarie Sports side who defeated them in the Major Semi Final.

GRADE 12

CSI Schofields edged into the Grand Final after beating Macquarie Sports 2-1 in the Preliminary Final.

It was a good result for CSI Schofields as Macquarie Sports last week had only missed out on a Grand Final spot with an extra-time loss to Stanmore Hawks, who CSI Schofields will now play in this weekend's Grand Final.

The Women's Grand Finals had been washed out last Tuesday and also on Sunday at the Gabbie Stadium, but fortunately were replayed.

WOMENS SUPER LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

FIRST GRADE: Marconi Fairfield 3 beat Sutherland Sharks 1.

UNDER 21: Marconi Fairfield 1 beat Sutherland Sharks 0.

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE GRAND FINAL:

Manly Warringah 2 beat Wollongong Wolves 0.

FIRST GRADE

UNDER 19: Manly Warringah 2 drew Wollongong Wolves 2 (Manly Warringah 3 beat Wollongong Wolves 2 Penalties).



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Totally outplayed

Gamblers knock off minor premiers

By Glenn Davis

Rochedale Rovers will have to carry the scars of a 3-nil major semi-final defeat by the Gold Coast Gamblers if they are to achieve their dream of the Queensland Premier League double.

Just one week since celebrating their first premiership title, Rochedale crashed badly in the premier league major semi at Perry Park and will need a sharp turnaround to win the grand final.

The Gold Coast showed why they were runners up in the premiership with a convincing display, which Rochedale had no answer for.

Rochedale, missing coach Peter Bannon who was at Coffs Harbour for his daughter's wedding, lacked imagination and rarely tested the Gold Coast who produced a copybook display.

The Gold Coast, who shrugged off

financial problems mid-season, proved just why they are the league's current form team spearheaded up front by ace striker Peter Dwyer.

Dwyer was at his clinical best notching up a double with his deadly left foot.

In contrast Rochedale's gun striker Matt Olley was kept quiet by a ruthless Gold Coast defence who won the semi-final battle but are still yet to win the grand final war.

The Gamblers let Rochedale know they meant business from the opening whistle with some torrid tackling in true semi-final spirit.

Their early keenness had Rochedale on the backfoot from the start with goalkeeper Todd Rumble having to pull off a fingertip save off a Dwyer header inside the opening few minutes.

Shortly after Dwyer side footed a corner from Adam Evans into Rumble's arms from close range before striker Troy Greenwood let fly with a powerful

strike over the crossbar from inside the box.

The Gold Coast midfield slowly overpowered Rochedale in the engine room with skipper Eddie Lees and diminutive Mark Bennett standing tall to help lay the platform for the Gold Coast's victory.

It took the Gold Coast 40 minutes to break the deadlock after midfielder Michael Richardson crossed perfectly to the far post where Dwyer nodded down for Greenwood to blast home from close range.

Dwyer could have sent the Gamblers into the half time break with a 2-nil lead but a powerful left foot volley off an Evans cross sailed straight into Rumble's arms from the edge of the box without the keeper having to move.

The Gold Coast picked up after the break where they left off attacking relentlessly from the whistle.

It took just five minutes for the Gamblers to notch up their second with

the first of Dwyer's double.

Again Richardson started the move down the right flank crossing into the box for Greenwood who, while closely marked, dummied for Dwyer to drill home at the farpost.

Rochedale tried desperately to counter with all their replacements brought on at different stages in the second half in a bid to stem the tide and inject some much needed spark.

However, six minutes from time Rochedale were punished for pressing forward in attack.

Lees summed up the situation perfectly in his own half sending a long ball to Dwyer down the right touchline.

Dwyer ran several metres and with little opposition cut inside to the box where he snapped a lethal left footer next to the upright which gave keeper Rumble no chance of stopping.

The Gold Coast will now play the preliminary final winner between Rochedale and Brisbane City who had a

XXXX LEAGUE

MAJOR

Rochedale Rovers 0 Gold Coast 3

KNOCKOUT

Brisbane Lions 0 Brisbane City 1

XXXX RESERVES

MAJOR

Brisbane City 3 Taringa Rovers 3

(After extra time) — (5-4 pens)

KNOCKOUT

Gold Coast City 4 Brisbane Lions 1

XXXX YOUTH

MAJOR

S'shine Coast 0 Rochedale Rov 2

KNOCKOUT

Wynnum 2 Brisbane Lions 1

SEMI PRO DIV 1 NORTH

MAJOR

North Star 2 Albany Creek 1

(After extra time)

KNOCKOUT

Pine Rivers Utd 0 Eastern Subs. 0

(After extra time) — (2-3 pens)

SEMI PRO DIV 1 NORTH RESERVES

MAJOR

Uni of Qld 2 Newmarket 0

KNOCKOUT

Pine Rivers Utd 2 Eastern Subs. 1

(After extra time)

SEMI PRO DIV 1 NORTH YOUTH

MAJOR

Pine Rivers Utd 3 Uni of Qld 3

(After extra time) — (4-5 pens)

KNOCKOUT

Mitchelton 3 Newmarket 2

SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUTH

MAJOR

Souths Utd 0 Rocklea Utd 4

KNOCKOUT

Capalaba 4 Slacks Creek 3

(After extra time)

SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUTH RESERVES

MAJOR

Souths Utd 6 Rocklea Utd 0

KNOCKOUT

Capalaba 2 Redlands Utd 0

SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUTH YOUTH

MAJOR

Redlands Utd 0 Rocklea Utd 2

KNOCKOUT

Slacks Creek 0 Capalaba 2

BLEIBERG RETIRES

Coach states staleness for decision

By Glenn Davis

The big shock in the Queensland Premier League knockout semi-final was not Brisbane Lions' 1-nil loss to Brisbane City, but the pre-match decision from Lions' coach Miron Bleiberg to retire.

Bleiberg, one of Lions' longest serving coaches after nearly five seasons at the helm, addressed his players before kick-off telling them it could be his last game with the club.

Unfortunately his players couldn't deliver a win, going down in sudden death extra time following a cracking 18 metre volley from Brisbane City midfielder Mark Jenkins.

Bleiberg cited staleness in the local league for his decision to quit.

"It's a mixture of things but I've lost a lot of enthusiasm and I've become bored," he said.

"I would have retired even if we made it to the grand final.

"I thought it was best to retire now to be fair to Lions so they can get a new broom."

Bleiberg coached Melbourne Croatia and Heidelberg in the national league before moving to Brisbane in 1990 where he became arguably one of the State's most successful coaches.

After a brief stint with Brisbane City, Bleiberg coached Brisbane United for two seasons in the national league before Bruce Stowell replaced him when the new Brisbane Strikers administration took over.

Bleiberg returned to the XXXX league winning the premiership-grand final double with North Star in 1994 before joining Brisbane Lions the following season.

Under Bleiberg, Brisbane Lions lost the elimination final in 1995 before winning the coveted double in 1996.

The following year in 1997, Brisbane Lions were

again semi finalists but again bowed out in the knockout semis.

Bleiberg, who has been widely criticised over the years for his selection methods, again had the last laugh on his detractors last season by taking Lions to grand final honours.

Bleiberg, a winner of three Grand Finals in Brisbane, two with Lions and one with North Star, is keen to stay within the game, possibly at administration level if asked by his club or he may seek a junior development role if one becomes available.

Although disappointed Brisbane Lions lost to arch rival Brisbane City, Bleiberg is tipping Gold Coast to win the grand final.

"It was not a great game from either side today as it was very hot," he said.

"Sudden death is a lottery but we shouldn't have let ourselves get to that stage.

"Brisbane City deserve all the accolades but overall I don't think they're good enough to get through to the grand final."

The knockout semi offered little as a spectacle and put to sleep several supporters such was the boredom of the game.

If there was a positive it came from City coach Bobby Hamilton who has worked wonders getting his side through to the preliminary final stage after losing eight players from last year's premiership winning side.

"And to make matters worse we had Damien Waugh and Royce Brownlie suspended," he said.

"We could easily have lost but there's plenty of spirit in this side and anything can happen in finals."

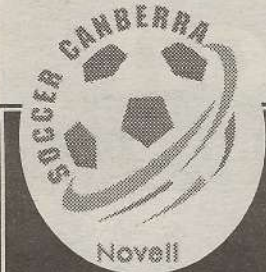
Hamilton dearly would love to reach the grand final but his biggest fear was realised when the Gold Coast downed Rochedale in the other semi.

"Of those two clubs I'd rather had played Gold Coast next as we've beaten them," he said.

"Rochedale seem to have the wood on us and have beaten us every time so far this season."



Miron Bleiberg: "I would have retired even if we made it to the grand final"



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By Graham Cooke

CACHIA GIVES JUVENTUS A MISS

Gungahlin Juventus caretaker coach Frank Cachia has decided against applying for the job next season.

"I have been asked by the club whether I intended to apply, and thought it only fair to let them know early on that I wasn't going to be available," he said.

Cachia took over six weeks ago after the resignation of Billy Willox. He halted a disastrous run of losses, which had seen the club sink from minor premiership contender to also-ran.

A loyal club servant, he has been in charge of both youth and under-23 teams, but now says he

wants some time off.

"This year I also coached the ACT under-13 team, and I will have them again next year when they go to under 14s, so I want to concentrate on that," he said.

"I've actually had approaches from other clubs, and people have said I am mad to give it away just when I've broken into first-team coaching, but I've made my decision."

Speculation has already begun on who will take the Juventus position, with the favourite being Ian Heywood who has been off the scene since resigning from Monaro in mid-season.

Another possibility is former Canberra City and Queanbeyan

City team boss Oscar Langone, whose son, Dennis, plays with the club.

Meanwhile, coaches of other teams who failed to make the play-offs are considering their futures.

Baz Giampaolo (Canberra Olympic) and Steve Bryant (Burns Club) both say they have yet to make a decision.

Lino Fiorese's job at Belconnen United should be safe, given his past record, but he has made it known he would like to see the northern suburbs outfit become more ambitious, with a place in the NSW Superleague considered as something more than a distant dream.

HAYES CALL IT A DAY — AFTER 45 YEARS

Jimmy Hayes' resignation from the position of technical director of coaching with second-division Belwest Foxes, ends a link with ACT soccer which began in the mid-1950s.

In his first year in the area, after arriving from England, the former merchant seaman captained the ACT representative team. More than 30 years later, he was to become its coach.

In between, he took charge of many clubs, including the now defunct Hollandia, the first ACT junior team, known as Ainslie Rovers, Olympic and Belconnen United.

His greatest club success was winning the 1985 Premiership with Belconnen United, coming back from 2-0 down to beat Olympic 3-2 at Seiffert Oval.

In 1991 he became the ACT Director of

Coaching, a position he held until 1997 when he joined Belwest. Asked to name the best players he has worked with, Hayes listed former Canberra City goalkeeper David Lindemyer, Walter Valeri, Baz Giampaolo, Tom Exharos, Joe Pompor and Stewart Devlin.

Belwest president Alan Lee said Hayes' retirement leaves a big hole in Canberra's soccer fabric.

"Jimmy was not only a great coach to thousands of players over the years, he is a fine friend and mentor to many of us in the soccer community," he said. "Jimmy has the ability to not only impart knowledge and skill but also to inspire. Our sport will be the poorer for his departure."

A farewell dinner is being planned for him later in the year.



Canberra Deakin players celebrate their semi-finals qualification...and so do the fans

ACT PREMIER LEAGUE SEMI FINALS

CAPITAL CITY 2 WESTON CREEK 0

Capital City Suns advanced into the Premier League Grand Final, scheduled for 19 September, with a 2-0 victory over Weston Creek in the major semi-final played at Riverside Oval last Sunday.

The Suns who were crowned League Champions the previous weekend, will play the winner of this week's encounter between Weston Creek and Monaro.

Capital City Suns' coach Bill Dojcinowski was beaming after the match.

"Weston have had the wood on us all season, but this was an important match to win. Now Monaro and Weston can hammer it out next weekend leaving us fresh for the Grand Final."

"The team proved today that they are worthy champions. A few people thought we were finished after last week's loss against Monaro, but I was confident that the boys would bounce back," Dojcinowski said.

The hero for the Suns was Japanese import Yuki Onda. Onda came into the starting line-up as a replacement for Shane Lyons who has left for Sydney to join NSL side Northern Spirit.

Onda, who promised so much all season, set the standard for the match with a strike in the 7th minute. Suns' striker Pat Phommaseisy fired a pinpoint cross to

Onda on the left wing. Onda used his speed to dart clear of Weston's defence and his shot, from a tight angle, found the net.

Ten minutes into the second half Suns made it 2-0. Quick passing between midfielder Luka Ujdur and striker Tony Lemezina saw the lively front-runner magically keeping his feet and the ball after being buffeted by the Creek's defensive pack. His shot sliced past the Weston goalkeeper.

Weston Creek's best chance came 15 minutes later. Peter Hader found himself in front of goal with only the keeper to beat but Suns' Tony Giannasca was equal to the task and deflected the ball away to safety.

MONARO 5 DEAKIN 2

The minor semi-final between Monaro and Canberra Deakin last Sunday proved a one-sided affair with Monaro coming out definitive winners 5-2.

Deakin's inclusion in the top four was only settled after the final round of league competition the previous week and from the outset, they looked like a side who wasn't expecting to be there.

Both sides took some time to adjust to the wet and greasy conditions at Majura Oval, but it was Monaro who eventually grasped the initiative.

With 28 minutes gone, Joe Campagna, who was

already becoming a stand-out with his busy tackling in midfield, found himself in space and with enough time to lob a high, curving shot in from the right.

Deakin's goalkeeper, Pedro Pavez, completely misjudging the flight of the ball, seemed to signal with his raised hand that the ball was going out. Instead it caught the inside of the upright and ricocheted into the net.

Campagna's delighted cartwheels across the pitch signalled the rising confidence of his team.

Deakin's embarrassment was further compounded when Marcel Munoz was sent off for his second yellow card offence: two late tackles in the space of a couple of minutes.

It was left to Deakin's veteran Stan Dukic to bring some credibility. With a minute of the first half remaining, his speculative chip floated over goalkeeper Ian Jefferies and found the top corner of the goal.

But the hope generated by a 1-1 scoreline at half time was short lived for Canberra Deakin. A man down, they conceded two early goals in the second half, Monaro's Jimmy Baxter heading in from a Lazar Simeonov cross in the 46th minute and ten minutes later Danny Macor's shot found the net with Pavez wrong-footed and slipping in the mud.

It could have been three in quick succession when four minutes later Pavez brought down Campagna in the

penalty box. Simeonov's spot kick was fisted away and the rebound shot went wide.

By the 70th minute, the downpour from the skies made conditions even worse and once again it was Monaro who capitalised. A goalmouth scramble found the ball with John Rakic who made no mistake tucking it in to the corner of the net for Monaro's 4th goal.

Five minutes later, Deakin replaced Dukic with the ebullient Gaby Exposito and it was a substitution which produced results for a demoralised side. Within 10 minutes, Exposito's name was added to the scoresheet, effortlessly slotting home a pass from Michael Barac.

However it was too little too late. With Deakin tiring badly, Rakic added his second and Monaro's 5th goal in the 86th minute.

Coach Andrew Monterosso was optimistic about Monaro's advance to the next stage of the play-offs. "We were hungry today and got the goals. We've got to make sure this will still be there when we play Weston Creek next week."

UNDER 23'S DIVISION ONE RESULTS: Uni of Canberra 1 Belconnen Utd 2, Weston Creek Royals 9 Monaro 7 (on penalties) (2-2 after full time, 2-2 after extra time)

YOUTH LEAGUE: Belconnen Utd 3 Southern Star 0, Gungahlin Juventus 8 Belwest 3, Canberra Deakin 1 Tuggeranong Utd 3.

eat well live well

PREMIER LEAGUE



CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 1: FIRSTS

Round 24

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Heidelberg United	24	15	6	3	50	27	51
Oakleigh	24	15	5	4	48	25	50
Lalor United	24	12	7	5	52	36	43
Westgate	24	11	4	9	36	31	37
Western Suburbs	24	10	5	9	41	38	35
Yarraville Glory	24	9	6	9	38	36	33
Richmond	24	8	8	8	33	35	32
Doncaster Rovers	24	8	7	9	40	38	31
Melbourne City	24	9	3	12	36	44	30
Springvale City	24	8	4	12	30	34	28
Nth G. Warriors	24	6	8	10	33	39	26
Northcote City	24	7	3	14	45	53	24
Kingston City	24	6	6	12	28	51	24
Werribee City	24	4	8	12	28	51	20

STATE LEAGUE 2: FIRSTS

Round 24

Frankston Pines	24	17	5	2	66	24	56
Essendon	24	15	8	1	62	20	53
Knox City	24	12	5	7	40	21	41
Geelong	24	10	7	7	43	47	37
East Richmond	24	9	8	7	33	36	35
Frankston Strikers	24	10	4	10	48	35	34
Altona City	24	10	4	10	24	42	34
Cranbourne Comets	24	8	8	8	44	40	32
Old S. Waverley	24	8	8	8	29	31	32
Ringwood City	24	6	6	12	31	52	24
Th'stown/Regent	24	6	5	13	36	51	23
Satellite City Rov'S24	6	5	13	23	43	23	
Diamond V. Utd	24	4	8	12	28	44	20
Croydon C. Arrows	24	3	7	14	27	48	16

Round 24

South Wantirna	24	15	5	4	44	21	50
Stonnington City	24	14	7	3	58	30	49
Fitzroy City	24	13	9	2	49	24	48
Nth Coburg United	24	15	3	6	47	31	48
South Springvale	24	9	11	4	40	23	38
Moreland City	24	11	5	8	46	35	38
Laverton Park	24	9	8	7	42	35	35
Pascoe Vale	24	7	6	11	34	46	27
Mooroolbark	24	7	6	11	24	38	27
Williamstown	24	6	7	11	38	49	25
Br'meadows City	24	5	6	13	33	48	21
Keilor Park	24	6	3	15	27	46	21
Bell Park	24	5	6	13	28	55	21
Banyule City	24	2	6	16	23	52	12

LEAGUE 4: FIRSTS ROUND 24

Langwarrin	24	21	1	2	81	20	64
Sandringham City	24	16	3	5	75	44	51
Seaford United	24	15	3	6	56	38	48
Lyndale United	24	14	5	5	60	38	47
Croxton Park	24	10	10	4	51	35	40
Sunbury United	24	11	3	10	41	41	36
Melton	24	9	6	9	35	36	33
Geelong Rangers	24	8	4	12	38	50	28
Corio	24	7	6	11	37	53	27
Keysborough	24	7	4	13	47	43	25
Lalor	24	7	4	13	38	55	25
Clifton Hill Utd	24	5	3	16	31	65	18
Chelsea	24	4	5	15	34	63	17
Nunawading City	24	4	3	17	27	70	15

DIV. 1: FIRSTS ROUND 21

Morwell Pegasus	21	16	3	2	56	16	51
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VSF RESERVE RESULTS: SOCCER RESULTS/CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 1: Reserves: Rd 24: Lalor United 4 Nth Geelong Warriors 1, Melbourne City 0 Oakleigh 1, Northcote City 1 Richmond 0, Springvale City 2 Yarraville Glory 1, Heidelberg United 4 Werribee City 2, Western Suburbs 0 Westgate 1, Kingston City 3 Doncaster Rovers 5.

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 2: Reserves: Rd 24: Frankston Pines 3 Thomastown / Regent 0, Essendon 7 Knox City 1, East Richmond 3 Ringwood City 4, Satellite City Rov'S 0 Cranbourne Comets 7, Croydon City Arrows 2 Diamond Valley Utd 1, Geelong 1 Altona City 0, Old Scotch Waverley 1 Frankston Strikers 0.

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 3: Reserves: Rd 24: Mooroolbark 4 Bell Park 0, North Coburg United 2 Broadmeadows City 3, Banyule City 2 Fitzroy City 0, Laverton Park 4 Keilor Park 1, Stonnington City 2 South Wantirna 0, Moreland City 3 Williamstown 2, Pascoe Vale 3 South Springvale 2.

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 4: Reserves: Rd 24: Langwarrin PP Geelong Rangers 0, Chelsea 2 Keysborough 3, Croxton Park 2 Corio 0, Sunbury United 2 Melton 1, Clifton Hill United 1 Nunawading City 2, Lyndale United 1 Sandringham City 1, Lalor 1 Seaford United 3.

Endeavour United	20	16	3	1	53	16	51
Brunswick City	20	13	5	2	44	19	44
Sydenham Park	21	11	5	5	59	43	38
Riversdale	21	9	5	7	33	26	32
Templestowe	21	7	6	8	43	36	27
Mitcham United	21	7	4	10	30	38	25
Monbulk	20	4	6	10	23	36	18
Nth Sunshine	21	5	2	14	30	53	17
Dandenong	20	3	5	12	24	45	14
Springvale Condors	20	4	4	12	20	56	13
South Caulfield	20	2	4	14	26	57	10

DIV. 2 NW: FIRSTS

Round 21

Hoppers Crossing	21	16	2	3	72	23	50
Elwood City	21	14	2	5	44	28	44
Glenroy	20	13	3	4	51	29	42
Somerton City	20	12	3	5	60	23	39
Ballarat	21	9	6	6	30	28	33
Mill Park	21	8	4	9	41	40	28
Uni. Of Melbourne	21	7	6	8	42	39	27
Melbourne Uni.	21	6	7	8	33	45	25
Broadmeadows Utd	21	6	6	9	34	50	21
Keon Park	21	4	4	13	25	64	16
South Yarra	21	3	4	14	22	39	13
Meadow Park	21	1	5	15	15	61	8

DIV. 2 SE

FIRSTS ROUND 21

Clayton	21	15	3	3	48	18	48
Waverley Wand's	21	15	2	4	61	27	47
Doveton	21	14	3	4	49	18	45
New'gh/Yallourn	21	9	5	7	47	40	32
Heatherton United	21	9	5	7	41	40	32
Ashburton	21	7	6	8	51	43	27
Dingley City	21	9	3	9	38	61	27
Brandon Park	21	8	2	11	32	39	26
Braeside United	21	6	1	14	33	39	19
Monash University	21	5	4	12	33	53	19
Dandenong Inter	21	4	5	12	37	58	17
Noble Park	21	4	3	14	30	64	15

DIV. 3 NW: FIRSTS ROUND 21

Whittlesea United	21	17	2	2	48	17	53
North Glenroy	21	14	2	5	48	25	44
Darebin United	21	13	1	7	54	26	40
Brimbank	21	11	4	6	56	31	37
Keilor United	21	10	5	6	48	30	35
Brimbank City	21	8	6	7	32	35	30
North Reservoir	21	5	9	7	21	26	24
Flemington Falcons	21	7	2	12	29	43	23
La Trobe Uni.	21	6	3	12	27	43	21
Watsonia Heights	21	5	5	11	31	48	20
Northun United	21	5	4	12	30	53	19
West Preston	21	2	3	16	26	73	9

1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE

DIV. 3 SE: FIRSTS ROUND 21

North Caulfield	21	14	2	5	65	28	44
Noble Park United	21	13	4	4	50	28	43
Moreland United	21	12	5	4	51	31	41
Endeavour Hills	21	12	4	5	66	34	40
Ivanhoe United	21	10	4	7	38	26	34
Collingwood City	21	7	7	7	48	38	28
Rowville Eagles	21	7	6	8	46	43	27
Thornbury United	21	6	5	10	34	58	23
Old Camberwell	21	4	9	8	23	41	21
Beamaris	21	5	5	11	34	52	20
Newport United	21	5	2	14	29	64	17
Parkmore	21	1	7	13	26	67	10

VSF RESERVE ROUND 24

Doncaster Rovers	24	17	4	3	66	23	55
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1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 1: Reserves: Rd 21: Springvale Condors 0 Riversdale 8, Endeavour United 1 Brunswick City 3, South Caulfield 0 Templestowe Eagles 0, Sydenham Park 19 Nth Sunshine Eagles 0, Mitcham United 1 Monbulk 2, Morwell Pegasus 0 Dandenong 5.

1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 2 NW: Reserves: Rd 21: Keon Park 1 Melbourne University 5, Hoppers Crossing 3 Somerton City 0, Glenroy 4 Elwood City 3, Mill Park 3 Meadow Park 0, Uni. Of Melbourne 2 South Yarra 2, Broadmeadows United 3 Ballarat 1.

1999 PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 2 SE: Reserves: Rd 21: Braeside United 1 Ashburton 1, Noble Park 2 Dandenong Inter

Melbourne City	24	16	4	4	68	34	52
Oakleigh	24	16	4	4	43	23	52
Richmond	24	15	3	6	66	40	48
Heidelberg United	24	14	4	6	65	35	46
Springvale City	24	14	1	9	68	33	43
Western Suburbs	24	9	6	9	47	31	33
Lalor United	24	7	7	10	37	49	28
Westgate	24	8	1	15	37	71	25
Northcote City	24	7	2	15	31	63	23
Nth Geelong	24	6	4	14	46	69	22
Kingston City	24	5	5	14	37	58	20
Yarraville Glory	24	4	4	16	23	61	16
Werribee City	24	3	5	16	33	77	14

STATE LEAGUE 2: RESERVES

Round 24

Essendon	23	18	4	1	77	14	58
FrankstonPines	24	18	2	4	78	16	56
Knox City	23	14	2	7	55	34	44
Cranbourne	24	13	4	7	60	32	43
Croydon City	24	11	7	6	50	39	40
Diamond Val. Utd	23	10	5	8	42	42	35
Frankston Strikers	24	10	5	9	52	57	35
Ringwood City	23	10	3	10	45	44	33
Altona City	24	8	6	10	41	50	30
Old Sc Waverley	24	9	3	12	37	52	30
East Richmond	23	7	3	13	33	53	24
Geelong	23	6	3	14	28	64	21
Thomastown	23	2	5	16	29	64	11
Satellite City	23	1	2	20	20	86	5

LEAGUE 3: RESERVES

Round 24

Keilor Park	24	14	5	5	57	33	47
Pascoe Vale	23	14	5	4	43	30	47
Moreland City	24	13	5	6	50	33	44
North Coburg Utd	24	13	3	8	52	43	42
Laverton Park	23	12	5	6	46	30	41
Stonnington City	24	11	5	8	58	38	38
South Wantirna	24	9	6	9	45	40	33
Mooroolbark	23	8	7	8	45	43	31
Fitzroy City	23	8	5	10	39	38	29
Banyule City	24	6	7	11	36	43	25
Bell Park	24	7	4	13	42	66	25
Broadmeadows	24	7	2	15	37	55	23
South Springvale	24	7	2	15	34	70	23
Williamstown	24	6	1	17	45	67	19

STATE LEAGUE 4: RESERVES

Round 24

Sunbury United	24	16	6	2	58	17	54
Seaford United	24	14	4	6	59	34	40
Langwarrin	23	12	8	3	54	22	44
Sandringham City	24	13	5	6	61	34	44
Corio	24	12	5	7	31	27	44
Lyndale United	24	12	4	8	52	40	44
Keysborough	24	10	8	6	42	36	34
Melton	24	11	1	12	38	36	34
Nunawading City	24	8	6	10	40	44	34
Geelong Rangers	23	8	4	11	42	38	24
Croxton Park	24	7	4	13	41	69	24
Clifton Hill United	24	4	6	14	25	68	14
Lalor	24	3	4	17	31	73	14
Chelsea	24	3	3	18	21	57	14

AUSSIIES



This list of Australians playing overseas has been researched

PLAYER	POSITION	CLUB	DIVISION (& TIER)	COUNTRY
Agostino, Paul	Striker	1860 Munich	Bundesliga (1)	Germany
Allsop, Danny	Striker	Manchester City	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Aloisi, John	Striker	Coventry City	Premier League (1)	England
Bacak, Josip	Striker	Vitesse Arnhem	KPN Telecompetitie (1)	Holland
Baser, Tansel	Defender	Trabzonspor	1.Lig (1)	Turkey
Beattie, Damien	Goalkeeper	Ilkeston Town	Dr. Martens Premier Division (Non-League)	England
Bernal, Andrew	Defender	Reading	Nationwide Division Two (3)	England
Blake, Ben	Defender	Gombak United	S-League (1)	Singapore
Bosnich, Mark	Goalkeeper	Manchester United	Premier League (1)	England
Bothwell, Brian	Midfielder	Brunei	Premier One (1)	Malaysia
Brinias, Dimitri	Goalkeeper	Bournemouth	Youth	England
Bozinovski, Vlado	Midfielder	Home United	S-League (1)	Singapore
Brady, Jon	Midfielder	Rushden & Diamonds	Conference League (Non-League)	England
Bresciano, Marco	Midfielder	Empoli	Serie B (2)	Italy
Bustos, Robert	Midfielder	Neuva Chicago	Nacional B (2)	Argentina
Cansdell-Sherriff, Shane	Defender	Leeds United	Youth	England
Cervinski, David	Defender	Gombak United	S-League (1)	Singapore
Corica, Steve	Midfielder	Wolverhampton Wanderers	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Covic, Ante	Goalkeeper	PAOK Salonika	Division A (1)	Greece
Coyne, Chris	Defender	West Ham United	Premier League (1)	England
Culina, Jason	Midfielder	Ajax Amsterdam	KPN Telecompetitie (1)	Holland
Damianos, Bill	Midfielder	Skoda Xanthi	Division A (1)	Greece
Di Iorio, Joey	Striker	Werder Bremen	Youth	Germany
Duric, Alex	Striker	Tanjong Pagar United	S-League (1)	Singapore
Edds, Gareth	Defender	Nottingham Forest	Youth	England
Ferrante, Michael	Defender	West Ham United	Youth	England
Filan, John	Goalkeeper	Blackburn Rovers	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Foster, Craig	Midfielder	Crystal Palace	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Foxe, Hayden	Defender	Sanfrecce Hiroshima	J-League (1)	Japan
Garcia, Richard	Striker	West Ham United	Youth	England
Gillman, Lee	Striker	Norwich City	Youth	England
Gonzales, Carlos	Midfielder	Ourense	Segunda B (3)	Spain
Grella, Vince	Midfielder	Empoli	Serie B (2)	Italy
Grdic, Tony	Defender	Hajduk Split	1.HNL (1)	Croatia
Groves, Brad	Midfielder	Leeds United	Youth	England
Guyett, Scott	Def/Midfielder	Southport	Conference League (Non-League)	England
Hagias, Greg	Striker	Panahaiki	Division A (1)	Greece
Harries, Paul	Striker	Carlisle United	Nationwide Division Three (4)	England
Hews, Chay	Midfielder	Bellmare Hiratsuka	J-League (1)	Japan
Howells, Lee	Midfielder	Cheltenham Town	Nationwide Division Three (4)	England
Hunter, Matthew	Striker	Leeds United	Youth	England
Ithier, Doug	Defender	Marine Castle United	S-League (1)	Singapore
Johnson, Richard	Midfielder	Watford	Premier League (1)	England
Jones, Brad	Goalkeeper	Middlesbrough	Youth	England
Juric, Frank	Goalkeeper	Bayer Leverkusen	Bundesliga (1)	Germany
Kalac, Zeljko	Goalkeeper	Roda JC Kerkrade	KPN Telecompetitie (1)	Holland
Kearnton, Jason	Goalkeeper	Crewe Alexandra	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Kewell, Harry	Midfield/Striker	Leeds United	Premier League (1)	England
Kindter, Lorenz	Defender	Cercle Brugge	Tweede Klasse (2)	Belgium
Knight, Jason	Midfielder	Hinckley United	Dr Martens Midland Division (Non-League)	England
Kulcsar, George	Midfielder	Queens Park Rangers	Nationwide Division One (2)	England

Please Note:

- Steve Horvat is residing in London, England but is not currently contracted to a club.
- The status of the following players is being confirmed: **Ross Aloisi** (Lorient, France), **Nick Lazarevski** (Chiasso, Switzerland), **David Oldfield** (Stoke City, England), **Joe Palatsides** (Olympiakos Volou, Greece), **Marcelo Pena** (Santiago Morning, Chile).

ABROAD

ed and compiled by Binesh Mudalliar, of Soccer Australia.

PLAYER	POSITION	CLUB	DIVISION (& TIER)	COUNTRY
Laurie, Steve	Defender	West Ham United	Youth	England
Laybutt, Stephen	Defender	Bellmare Hiratsuka	J-League (1)	Japan
Lazaridis, Stan	Def/Midfielder	Birmingham City	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Lettieri, Fabian	Striker	Werder Bremen	Youth	Germany
Lovell, Stuart	Midfield/Striker	Hibernian	Premier League (1)	Scotland
Maisano, Marco	Midfielder	EVV Eindhoven	Toto Divisie (2)	Holland
Marrapodi, Joe	Defender	Tampines Rovers	S-League (1)	Singapore
Marusic, Kresimir	Midfielder	Lommel	Eerste Klasse (1)	Belgium
Mautone, Steve	Goalkeeper	Wolverhampton Wanderers	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Martin, Ian	Goalkeeper	Newcastle United	Youth	England
McDermott, Andrew	Defender	West Bromwich Albion	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Moore, Craig	Defender	Glasgow Rangers	Premier League (1)	Scotland
Murphy, Shaun	Defender	Sheffield United	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Muscat, Kevin	Defender	Wolverhampton Wanderers	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Neill, Lucas	Defender	Millwall	Nationwide Division Two (3)	England
O'Donell, Scott	Defender	Tampines Rovers	S-League (1)	Singapore
Okon, Paul	Def/Midfielder	Fiorentina	Serie A (1)	Italy
Palomino, Rodrigo	Striker	Francs Borains	Division IIIA (3)	Belgium
Petkovic, Michael	Goalkeeper	Strasbourg	French First Division	France
Pettersson, Andy	Goalkeeper	Portsmouth	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Popovic, Tony	Defender	Sanfrecce Hiroshima	J-League (1)	Japan
Rizzo, Nick	Midfielder	Crystal Palace	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Robertson, Mark	Defender	Burnley	Nationwide Division Two (3)	England
Salapasidis, Kosta	Mid/Striker	Compostela	Segunda A (2)	Spain
SajRynes, Mike	Midfielder	SFC Opava	Gambrinus Liga (1)	Czech Republic
Schwarzer, Mark	Goalkeeper	Middlesbrough	Premier League (1)	England
Scope, Tynan	Goalkeeper	Bristol City	Nationwide Division Two (3)	England
Sekulic, Tony	Defender	Mainz	2 Liga (2)	Germany
Simunic, Josip	Defender	Hamburg	Bundesliga (1)	Germany
Siveski, Pece	Midfielder	Pelister	Vardar Skoplje (1)	Macedonia
Skoko, Ante	Defender	Makarska	3.HNL (3)	Croatia
Skoko, Josip	Midfielder	Hajduk Split	1.HNL (1)	Croatia
Spiteri, Joe	Striker	Lierse	Eerste Klasse (1)	Belgium
Stewart, Darren	Defender	Balestier Central	S-League (1)	Singapore
Talay, Ufuk	Midfielder	Galatasaray	1.Lig (1)	Turkey
Talia, Frank	Goalkeeper	Swindon Town	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Tapai, Ernie	Mid/Striker	Home United	S-League (1)	Singapore
Tiatto, Danny	Defender	Manchester City	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Tohouroglou, Kyriakos	Goalkeeper	Olympiakos	Division A (1)	Greece
Tsirtsakis, Arthur	Def/Midfielder	Ialysos Rhodes	Division B (2)	Greece
Van Blerk, Jason	Defender	West Bromwich Albion	Nationwide Division One (2)	England
Vidmar, Tony	Defender	Glasgow Rangers	Premier League (1)	Scotland
Viduka, Mark	Striker	Glasgow Celtic	Premier League (1)	Scotland
Vlahos, Andy	Midfielder	Panathinaikos	Division A (1)	Greece
Webster, Adrian	Midfielder	Colchester United	Nationwide Division Two (3)	England
Widera, Sean	Mid/Striker	Hibernian	Premier League (1)	Scotland
Wilkinson, Barry	Defender	Dumbarton	League Division Three (4)	Scotland
Wilkshire, Luke	Midfielder	Middlesbrough	Youth	England
Zdrilic, David	Striker	SSV Ulm (Loan)	Bundesliga (1)	Germany
Zelic, Ned	Def/Midfielder	1860 Munich	Bundesliga (1)	Germany
Zois, Peter	Goalkeeper	NAC Breda	Toto Divisie (2)	Holland

- To be included in the above list, a player must be eligible to play for AUSTRALIA (Under FIFA rules), thus the exclusion of **Tony Dorigo** (Derby County), **Tim Cahill** (Millwall), **Sasa Illic** (Charlton Athletic), **Jamie McMaster** (Leeds United), **Michael Panopoulos** (Aris Salonika)*, **Ante Seric** (Verona), and **Christian Vieri** (Inter Milan).

* Panopoulos' transfer to Portsmouth (England) is not yet complete.

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

WEEKLY



Robson answers SOS

New manager to give everyone a chance before bringing in broom

Bobby Robson was 'welcomed home' by Freddie Fletcher as he returned to English club management after 17 years — and the new boss promptly declared that Premiership survival was the priority.

Speaking at a packed press conference, the 66-year-old former England manager, who has agreed to take charge initially until the end of the season, stressed that all the staff would

have a chance to prove themselves before he decided whether change was required.

He said: "It's a lovely day, and it's great to be back. I thought Barcelona was big, but I think this has just pipped it. I'm proud, honoured and thrilled."

"I followed a car on the way to the ground this morning. The registration number was 'SOS 1'. I don't know if someone was trying to tell me something."

"It's a massive job and a great challenge. The immediate concern is going to be to bring stability to the club, and ensure that next year we are still in the Premiership. I think the situation is very retrievable. There is no panic."

In a glittering managerial career, which has seen him go from Ipswich to England, Barcelona, Porto and PSV — Robson has acquired a wealth of knowledge of the European game which will certainly stand him in good stead in the 'united nations' of Newcastle's dressing-room.

He has promised that all players and coaching staff will get a chance to prove themselves before he decides if changes are required.

"We know where we are — we're joint-bottom. The club needs a win badly. I need to look at the players quickly and establish in my mind what we have," he said.

"The club have spent a massive sum of money on the present staff. My job is to ascertain what the present quality is and find out if it is sufficient."

"It may be that we do not have to spend and change the staff. I want first to look at the staff. Everyone has a chance. Everyone starts fresh. That applies to technical staff too — they deserve an opportunity."

Robson has unexpectedly only signed a deal that keeps him at St James' Park until the end of the season, though he has the confidence to believe that he shall be successful enough to prolong that stay.

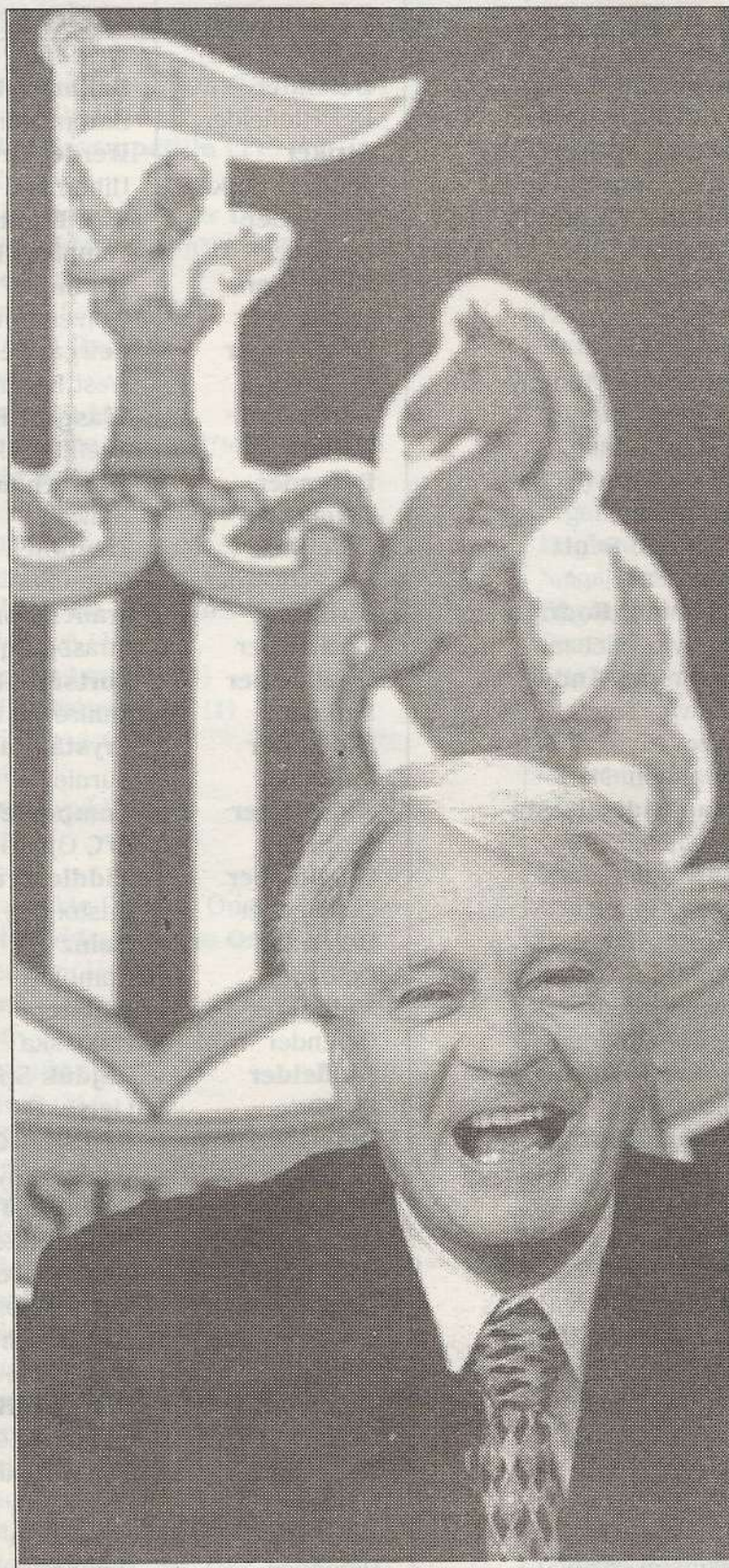
"I have to reinitil confidence, enthusiasm and self-belief in the players to give them the chance to stop the poor results they've had and achieve the results we all feel sure the players are capable of."

Robson had no doubts that he would be able to handle the pressure of the position, saying:

"We have the best group of fans in the whole wide world. They're not too demanding, I don't think that's a pressure point. I know the public will give the players a chance."

"Don't forget, I've had 120,000 Catalans waving white handkerchiefs at me during my time in Spain. Then, you know it's time to go. I won't get that here, that's for sure."

Shepherd added: "He is someone we have long admired. We have asked him



Bobby Robson: Returns to English club management after 17 years.

to take over responsibility for all team affairs with immediate affect. We have also asked him to undertake a look at the playing side of the club."

XAVIER THE SAVIOUR



Abel Xavier: Was highly recommend to Everton.

English Premiership side Everton signed Portuguese international Abel Xavier from PSV Eindhoven last Friday on a three-year contract. The 26-year-old joined Everton for \$2.4 million.

Xavier, a native of African country Mozambique, has earned 10 caps for Portugal as a defensive midfielder.

Everton manager Walter Smith said Xavier is a player who came highly recommended to him and believes he will settle into the English style without any problems.

Six matches into the Premiership season, Everton sits just below the halfway point on the domestic table having won two of those matches.

"It's a lovely day and it's great to be back"

AUSSIES ABROAD



*The following information has been researched and compiled by Binesh Mudaliar of Soccer Australia.

OFF-SEASON TRANSFERS

PLAYER

Zlatko ARAMBASI
Damien BEATTIE
Mark BOSNICH
Marco BRESCIANO
Alvin CECCOLI
Ante COVIC
Jason CULINA
Carlos GONZALES*
Tony GRDIC
Paul HARRIES
Chay HEWS
Frank JURIC
Mirko JURILJ
Lorenz KINDTER
Jason KNIGHT
Stephen LAYBUTT
Stan LAZARIDIS
Joseph MARRAPODI
Kresimir MARUSIC
Steve MAUTONE
Robert MIDDLEBY
Shaun MURPHY
Paul OKON
Rodrigo PALOMINO
Andy PETTERSON
Tynan SCOPE
David SEAL
Aurelio VIDMAR
Adrian WEBSTER
Sean WIDERA

LAST CLUB

KV Mechelen (Belg, 2)
Notts County (Eng, 2)
Aston Villa (Eng, PL)
Carlton SC (EC)
AEK Athens (Gr, 1) (loan)
Marconi (EC)
Sydney Olympic (EC)
Sydney Olympic (EC)
Sibenik (Cro, 1)
Crystal Palace (Eng, 1)
Brisbane Strikers (EC)
Fortuna Dusseldorf (Ger, 2)
Jurong FC (Sing, 1)
KV Oostende (Belg, 1)
Shephed Dynamo (Eng, NL)
Brisbane Strikers (EC)
West Ham United (Eng, PL)
Joondalup City (WA)
Northern Spirit (EC)
Reading (Eng, 2)
Uerdingen (Ger, 2)
West Bromwich Albion (Eng, 1)
Lazio (Ita, 1)
RC Tournai (Belg, 3)
Charlton Athletic (Eng, PL)
Coventry City (Eng, PL)
Northampton Town (Eng, 2)
Sanfrecce Hiroshima (Jpn, 1)
Charlton Athletic (Eng, Y)
Adelaide Force (Y)

TO PRESENT CLUB

Sydney Olympic (EC)
Ilkeston Town (Eng, NL)
Manchester United (Eng, PL)
Empoli (Ita, 2)
Wollongong Wolves (EC)
PAOK Salonika (Gr, 1)
Ajax Amsterdam (Hol, 1)
Ourense (Spain, 2B)
Hajduk Split (Cro, 1)
Carlisle United (Eng, 3)
Bellmare Hiratsuka (Jpn, 1)
Bayer Leverkusen (Ger, 1)
Sydney United (EC)
Cercle Brugge (Belg, 2)
Hinckley United (Eng, NL)
Bellmare Hiratsuka (Jpn, 1)
Birmingham City (Eng, 1)
Tampines Rovers (Sing, 1)
Lommel (Belg, 1)
Wolves (Eng, 1)
Kings FC (EC)
Sheffield United (Eng, 1)
Fiorentina (Ita, 1)
Francs Borains (Belg, 3)
Portsmouth (Eng, 1)
Bristol City (Eng, 2)
Northern Spirit (EC)
Adelaide Force (EC)
Colchester United (Eng, 2)
Hibernian (Scot, PL)



Frank Juric: Signed by leading German club Bayer Leverkusen.

Key: In parentheses, first element is country, 2nd element is division. In the LAST CLUB column, the division assigned is the division that the club played in during the 1998/99 season.

Y-Youth scheme

EC-Ericsson Cup

PL-Premier League

NL-Non-league *

- to be finalised



Jason Van Blerk: Pictured playing for Apla-Leichhardt in the National Soccer League.

RELEASED PLAYERS

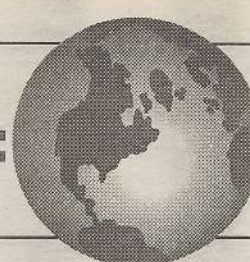
Mitchell BLOWES [GK]	(Huddersfield Town, England)
Raphael BOVE	(Heerenveen, Holland)
Mario JERMAN	(PAOK Salonika, Greece)
Alex KOTEVICH	(OFC, Germany)
Peter LAHANAS	(Apollon, Greece)
Paul LAPIC [GK]	(NK Zagreb, Croatia)
Blair MACHIN [GK]	(Queen's Park, Scotland)
John MAISANO	(Westerlo, Belgium)
Simon MIOTTO [GK]	(Hartlepool United, England)
Peter VUKMIROVIC	(Marine Castle United, Singapore)

RE-SIGNINGS

PLAYER	CLUB	DETAILS	EXPIRY DATE
Danny ALLSOP	Manchester City (England)	2-years	2001
Robert BUSTOS	Neuva Chicago (Argentina)	1-year	2000
Chris COYNE	West Ham United (England)	1-year	2000
Vince GRELLA	Empoli (Italy)	4 years	2003
Harry KEWELL	Leeds United (England)	4-years	2003
Stuart LOVELL	Hibernian (Scotland)	2-years	2001
Josip SIMUNIC	Hamburg (Germany)	1-year	2000
Josip SKOKO	Hajduk Split (Croatia)	1-year	2000
Mark ROBERTSON	Burnley (England)	1-year	2000
Jason VAN BLERK	West Bromwich Albion (England)	2-years	2001

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SHEARER ALMOST QUIT ENGLAND

Stunning revelation in biography called 'Sweet FA'

England captain Alan Shearer threatened to turn his back on the national team before the 1998 World Cup in France, according to former Football Association boss Graham Kelly.

Kelly alleged national manager Glenn Hoddle, fired after the World Cup, also made clear he was prepared to follow the Newcastle United striker out of the door if Shearer was charged over a bad tackle in a premier league match.

"I found it quite staggering. And, frankly, it was childish behaviour for the England captain to threaten to give up the job of captaining his country," he added.

"It lacked the maturity I had come to expect from him."

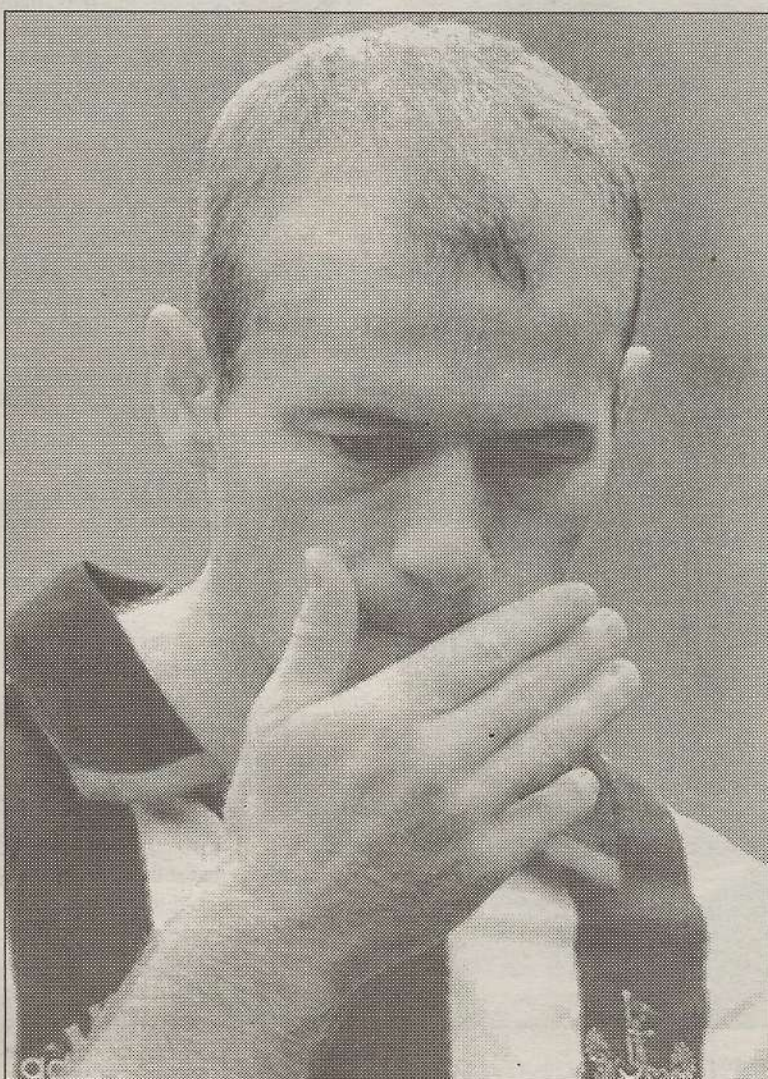
Kelly, who lost his job over a cash-for-votes furore surrounding England's 2006 World Cup bid, made the claims in the first instalment of his book "Sweet FA" which the Sun newspaper began to serialise last Wednesday.

There was no immediate response from either Shearer or Hoddle.

Kelly said Shearer, capped 52 times by England and scorer of 30 international goals, had made his threat in April 1998 when a FA disciplinary committee was investigating him.

Shearer had been accused of intentionally kicking Leicester City's Neil Lennon in the face after being fouled in a premier league match at Filbert Street that month.

The final verdict was "not proven", but Kelly revealed Shearer and Hoddle tried to persuade the FA to drop the charges.



Alan Shearer: The subject of controversial allegations.

"If I don't have the trust of my employers, I will not go to France and will consider leaving Newcastle and English football as well," Kelly quoted Shearer as saying to him in a telephone conversation.

Kelly said Hoddle backed Shearer and told him in May, the month before the World Cup kicked off, that his captain was serious about his threat to quit the squad.

"Glenn asked me whether I had spoken to Alan Shearer because the player was determined he would not go to France if he was charged," Kelly wrote.

"He then followed up with a double whammy as he went on to say: 'If that happens, I will have to consider my own position'."

Kelly questioned Shearer's inspirational abilities when things are not going well for the team and said he was not convinced that a side should be led by a striker.

"Shearer is a good captain when things are going well but if he is not getting the service you can tell from his body language that he is not the most inspirational player to lead a side," wrote Kelly.

The comments added to a troubled season for the England captain, whose club have taken only one point from six matches.

Shearer did not see eye to eye with Ruud Gullit, who resigned as manager of Newcastle last week, and has been heavily criticised for his lacklustre performances for club and country since ankle surgery at the start of last season.

England manager Kevin Keegan has



Graham Kelly: Alleges that Alan Shearer wanted to quit England.

decided to keep the player he signed in his time as Newcastle boss away from the media.

"I don't think the questions that will be asked will be of any benefit to Alan Shearer as an individual or to England."

"I want him to focus on the job in hand, not on what is going on elsewhere," Keegan said.

Jesus speaks: "[You're all] liars and cowards"

President causes uproar

Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil was at the centre of yet another controversy last Wednesday after he called the board and players of Real Sociedad "liars and cowards".

Gil made his comments at one of his regular press conferences last Tuesday, and they were widely reported by the Spanish media.

Relations soured between the two clubs following August 28's volatile league match in San Sebastian which the Basque club won 4-1.

Real Sociedad officials have said they will not attend games at Atletico Madrid or collaborate with Atletico in discussions within the Professional Football League — the grouping of Spanish first division clubs — or with the Spanish football federation (RFEF).

The Real Sociedad decision came

as a result of Atletico's anger over a large banner bearing the words "Atletico Madrid, Gil, Bastion, Murderers" which Real fans had left hanging from a stand during the match.

The banner referred to the killing of a Real Sociedad supporter Aitor Zabaleta outside Atletico's Vicente Calderon stadium prior to last season's UEFA Cup match between the two clubs.

Bastion is a right-wing Atletico supporters' group which has been widely blamed for Zabaleta's killing although nobody has ever been convicted.

Atletico officials protested that the banner should have been removed by the host club.

Real Sociedad president Luis Uranga responded by saying he had not seen the banner.

Uranga added he was "fed up with Atletico".

The Atletico president said that the breakdown in relations did not concern him.

"We haven't had any relations with such lying, cynical people for a long time anyway," he said.

An RFEF spokesman said they had no plans at present to penalise Real Sociedad or Jesus Gil for bringing the game into disrepute despite the outrageous language used.

In the stormy encounter, Atletico's Argentine defender Jose Antonio Chamot was sent off for punching Real midfielder Francisco de Pedro in the head after the Spanish international had caught him with a late tackle.

The RFEF banned Chamot for four games on Tuesday



Jesus Gil: Embroiled in yet another controversy.



Shearer hat-trick silences critics



Mission accomplished: England manager Kevin Keegan waves to the crowd.

Alan Shearer defied his critics with a first-half hat-trick that lifted England to second place in Group Five following a 6-0 drubbing of pointless Luxembourg at Wembley.

All the goals came in the first half except Michael Owen's last-minute effort. England were sent on their way after 12 minutes when Shearer crashed home a penalty after his Newcastle United colleague and new cap Kieron Dyer was brought down by Luxembourg captain Marc Birsens.

Robbie Fowler had a goal disallowed for offside a minute after the opener, but England effectively sealed the win with two goals in as many minutes. Fowler turned provider after 28 minutes when he fed Shearer, who scored with a rising shot, and then a fine move ended with Steve McManaman tapping home Ray Parlour's cross.

Shearer completed his hat-trick after 34 minutes when he latched onto another fine cross from the impressive Dyer to score from close range.

It was one-way traffic at this stage and Steve McManaman made it 5-0 a minute before the interval, when the Real Madrid winger headed home David Batty's cross at the near post.

England continued to dominate after the break, but were prevented from adding to their tally by some fine saves from Philippe Felgen as well as the woodwork, with Michael Owen sending a glancing header against the post in the

74th minute just 12 minutes after his introduction.

Felgen almost sliced a clearance into his goal after 67 minutes, while Steve McManaman twice missed gilt-edged chances to complete his hat-trick.

The sixth goal finally came in the final minute with Owen confirming his return to fitness with a searing 25-yard curling shot into the top corner.

As he talked to reporters in the tunnel after England's victory the Alan Shearer launched a broadside at those who had questioned his goalscoring powers and attitude.

"I don't have to answer to anyone," he said. "I don't need a confidence boost. I need chances. I am part of a Newcastle side that hasn't done well. I have to take part of the blame for that. I listen to (new Newcastle manager) Bobby Robson and (England coach) Kevin Keegan, and as long as I please them I am happy. I don't listen to discredited people, and I don't answer to anyone else."

Keegan said he was not surprised to see his captain answer his critics with his first ever international hat-trick.

"I'm delighted for him," said Keegan. "He's got faith in himself. He doesn't need people to have faith in him, but sometimes it would help if we backed our heroes a bit more."

"People like him write their own stories and that (the hat-trick) will have given him a tremendous boost for England and Newcastle United."

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Suker's 93rd minute winner

Davor Suker propelled Croatia to the top of European Championship Qualification Group Eight with a well-taken 93rd minute solo goal against the Republic of Ireland at the Maksimir Stadium in Zagreb.

It was third time lucky for Suker as he had earlier squandered two clear-cut opportunities as Croatia completely dominated the defensively-minded Irish.

The Arsenal striker latched onto a hopeful 60-metre pass by Robert Kovac inside the Irish penalty area and controlled the ball with his famous left foot before flicking it past Irish goalkeeper Alan Kelly, all in one move.

The Irish, who performed magnificently in their midweek defeat of Yugoslavia in Dublin, reverted to a defensive 4-5-1 system in order to play for a scoreless draw, and the decision seemed vindicated until Suker's late intervention.

In truth, the Irish invited the Croats to attack them, and Kelly needed to be on top of his game as he repelled every Croatian raid until the last minute, including a staggering 20 corners.

Croatia, who have only one game left — against Yugoslavia on October 10 — played their way into the game, with Aljosa Asanovic

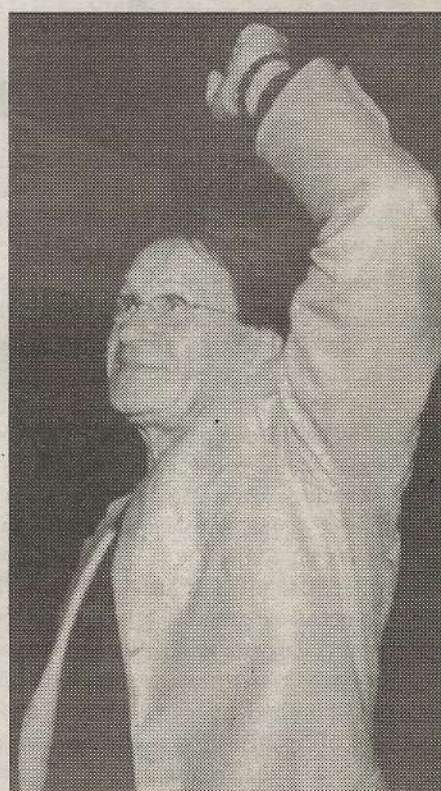
and Robert Jarni orchestrating many of their attacks.

Milan Rapajc gave a hint of what was to come when his speculative long range effort deflected off Gary Breen and flew inches wide of the goal as the diving Kelly was clearly relieved to see the ball go out for a corner.

Then Suker, who had volleyed over after six minutes when he got in behind Steve Staunton to connect with a Slaven Bilic cross, looked certain to open the scoring after 13 minutes when he ran into the penalty area only to be robbed by a stunning recovery tackle by Ken Cunningham just as he lined up to shoot.

Within a minute Kelly had to make a tremendous save with his legs when Asanovic slipped in a precise low ball for Zvonimir Soldo, with Robert Kovac lashing the rebound over the bar.

Suker found the net shortly before half-time, but the goal was ruled out for offside, and then Mario Stanic rattled the Irish bar in the 58th minute, but some resolute Irish defending kept the Croats at bay until the dying seconds.



Miroslav Blazevic: Croatia's coach celebrates his team's win.

EURO 2000 RESULTS: PAGE 31

WALES STILL ALIVE THANKS TO GIGGS

Man U star's 86th minute winner

Manchester United winger Ryan Giggs headed home an 86th-minute winner to keep alive Wales' chances of reaching the European Championship final round.

Wales defeated Belarus 2-1.

The Welsh wing wizard's sixth goal in 25 internationals gave his former United team-mate Mark Hughes the perfect start to his reign as national team manager, and leaves the Welsh needing to beat Switzerland in their final qualifier to be in with a chance of reaching the play-offs for the finals.

Giggs beat Belarus keeper Gennady Tumilovich with four minutes left after Chris Coleman had flicked on John Page's long throw.

The goal completed a good fightback by Wales who had fallen behind after half an hour when Spartak Moscow's Vasily Baranov blasted in a thunderous long range shot.

The same player hit the bar eight minutes later, but Wales weathered the storm and Giggs almost

equalised after 40 minutes, but his header from Dean Saunders' cross was miraculously saved by Tumilovich.

However, Saunders celebrated his 70th international appearance by equalising just before the interval when he seized on a rebound after the keeper had beaten out a shot by Gary Speed.

Wales had several chances to seal the game before Giggs' winner, with Paul Robinson crashing a shot off the bar, and Saunders and Nathan Blake also coming close.

However, Paul Jones was forced to make a fine save for the Welsh in the final minutes, when he tipped over another Baranov drive.

Wales move into third place with nine points from seven matches, two behind Denmark and one ahead of Switzerland.

Italy lead with 14 points and Belarus stay bottom of the group with just two points after six games.



We did it: Mark Hughes, Ryan Giggs and Chris Coleman.

Demark delight



Still alive: Denmark keeper Peter Schmelchel.

Denmark kept alive their hopes of reaching the European Championship final round with a late winner over Switzerland in their Group One qualifying match at the Parken Stadium in Copenhagen.

Schalke striker Ebbe Sand set up both Danish goals in the win with Jon Dahl Tomasson finishing sweetly in the 81st minute to give the 1992 European champions a narrow 2-1 win.

The Feyenoord attacker was quickest on the rebound after a parry by Grasshopper goalkeeper Stefan Huber from Sand's low shot.

Tottenham Hotspurs Allan Nielsen had opened the scoring for Denmark in the 54th minute with a goal from close range.

Ebbe Sand back-heeled the ball into the path of Nielsen, who beat Stefan Huber with a rising shot.

Switzerland equalised in the 79th minute when Kubilay Türkyilmaz, who had come on as a substitute 20 minutes earlier, rose to head home.

He followed up determinedly after Ciracio Sforza, who had been allowed too much time in side the penalty area by the Danish defence, had

crashed a thunderous drive off the underside of the crossbar.

The Danes — who needed to win to remain in contention for a place in the runners-up play-offs — were repeatedly frustrated in the first half as Huber made a number of great saves.

"Our chances look better now," Denmark head coach Bo Johansson said. "But I think we need to win against Italy," he said, referring to the Danes' upcoming finale in Naples. "It was was one of those games that makes coaches a lot older in a matter of minutes.

"When you win a game like this, then you are of course content. But regarding our overall performance, it was one of those games, where we failed to get into an offensive rhythm.

"We made a good start, but this made the players believe they were Brazilians who were able to do whatever they wanted with the ball.

"And instead of being so focused on the technical finesse of the play, they should have played football."

Germany struggle against minnows

Oliver Bierhoff scored twice as Germany beat Finland 2-1 in their European Championship Group Three qualifying match at the Olympia stadium in Helsinki, but the European champions struggled to hold off a second-half rally by the home side.

Bierhoff's goals in the second and 17th minutes kept the Finns at bay until a 63rd-minute tap-in by defender Janne Salli narrowed the gap.

The Finns pressurised the Germans until the final whistle, but could not get past keeper Jens Lehmann who made a number of key saves.

The result leaves Germany tied with Turkey at the top of the group on 15 points, but ahead on goal difference. Finland, in third place, have no chance of qualifying for the finals.

"I saw a very good first half from Germany but the second half was a different story," German coach Erich Ribbeck said.

"It was a bit scary after Finland scored, but the most important thing is that our fate is still in our own hands."

Bierhoff's early goals, resulting from sloppy Finnish play, had the Finns on their heels for most of the first half.

However, when Salli knocked in a loose ball from a Jarkko Wiss free-kick, the Finns applied steady

pressure, nearly equalising in the 76th minute when a header by Jonathan Johansson into the box was almost slotted home by Mika Kottila.

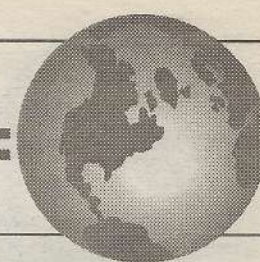
"It was a good match, especially in the first half," German libero Lothar Matthäus said.

"After the break, Finland had nothing to lose. Turkey are a strong team, but I am convinced we can beat them at home and win the group," said Oliver Bierhoff.

Germany play Turkey in the final decisive round of games on 9 October.



Oliver Bierhoff: Scored two goals.



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

GROUP A

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

Bayer Leverkusen vs. Lazio
Dynamo Kiev vs. Maribor

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

Maribor vs. Bayer Leverkusen
Lazio vs. Dynamo Kiev

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29

Lazio vs. Maribor
Bayer Leverkusen vs. Dynamo Kiev

TUESDAY, OCT. 19

Maribor vs. Lazio
Dynamo Kiev vs. Bayer Leverkusen

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27

Lazio vs. Bayer Leverkusen
Maribor vs. Dynamo Kiev

TUESDAY, NOV. 2

Bayer Leverkusen vs. Maribor
Dynamo Kiev vs. Lazio

Table

Leverkusen (Ger)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lazio (Ita)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maribor (Slo)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP B

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

AIK vs. Barcelona
Fiorentina vs. Arsenal

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

Arsenal vs. AIK
Barcelona vs. Fiorentina

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29

Barcelona vs. Arsenal
AIK vs. Fiorentina

TUESDAY, OCT. 19

Arsenal vs. Barcelona
Fiorentina vs. AIK

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27

Barcelona vs. AIK
Arsenal vs. Fiorentina

TUESDAY, NOV. 2

AIK vs. Arsenal
Fiorentina vs. Barcelona

Table

AIK (Swe)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arsenal (Eng)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barcelona (Spa)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fiorentina (Ita)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP C

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

Boavista vs. Rosenborg
Feyenoord vs. Borussia Dortmund

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

Borussia Dortmund vs. Boavista
Rosenborg vs. Feyenoord

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29

Rosenborg vs. Borussia Dortmund
Boavista vs. Feyenoord

TUESDAY, OCT. 19

Borussia Dortmund vs. Rosenborg
Feyenoord vs. Boavista

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27

Rosenborg vs. Boavista
Borussia Dortmund vs. Feyenoord

TUESDAY, NOV. 2

Boavista vs. Borussia Dortmund
Feyenoord vs. Rosenborg

Table

Boavista (Por)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dortmund (Ger)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feyenoord (Net)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rosenborg (Den)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP D

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

Manchester United vs. Croatia Zagreb
Olympique Marseille vs. Sturm Graz

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

Sturm Graz vs. Manchester United
Croatia Zagreb vs. Olympique Marseille

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29

Croatia Zagreb vs. Sturm Graz
Manchester United vs. Olympique Marseille

TUESDAY, OCT. 19

Sturm Graz vs. Croatia Zagreb
Olympique Marseille vs. Manchester United

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27

Croatia Zagreb vs. Manchester United
Sturm Graz vs. Olympique Marseille

TUESDAY, NOV. 2

Manchester United vs. Sturm Graz
Olympique Marseille vs. Croatia Zagreb

Table

Man United (Eng)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia Zagreb (Cro)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marseille (Fra)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sturm Graz (Aut)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP E

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15

Olympiakos vs. Real Madrid
Molde vs. FC Porto

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

FC Porto vs. Olympiakos
Real Madrid vs. Molde

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

Real Madrid vs. FC Porto
Olympiakos vs. Molde

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

FC Porto vs. Real Madrid
Molde vs. Olympiakos

TUESDAY, OCT. 26

Real Madrid vs. Olympiakos
FC Porto vs. Molde

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

Olympiakos vs. FC Porto
Molde vs. Real Madrid

Table

FC Porto (Por)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Molde (Nor)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olympiakos (Gre)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Madrid (Spa)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP F

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15

Bayern Munich vs. PSV Eindhoven
Valencia vs. Rangers

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

Rangers vs. Bayern Munich
PSV Eindhoven vs. Valencia

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

PSV Eindhoven vs. Rangers
Bayern Munich vs. Valencia

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

Rangers vs. PSV Eindhoven
Valencia vs. Bayern Munich

TUESDAY, OCT. 26

PSV Eindhoven vs. Bayern Munich
Rangers vs. Valencia

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

Bayern Munich vs. Rangers
Valencia vs. PSV Eindhoven

Table

Bay. Munich (Ger)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PSV (Net)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rangers (Sco)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valencia (Spa)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP G

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15

Sparta Prague vs. Bordeaux
Willem II vs. Spartak Moscow

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

Spartak Moscow vs. Sparta Prague
Bordeaux vs. Willem II

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

Bordeaux vs. Spartak Moscow
Sparta Prague vs. Willem II

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

Spartak Moscow vs. Bordeaux
Willem II vs. Sparta Prague

TUESDAY, OCT. 26

Bordeaux vs. Sparta Prague
Spartak Moscow vs. Willem II

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

Sparta Prague vs. Spartak Moscow
Willem II vs. Bordeaux

Table

Bordeaux (Fra)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sparta (Cze Rep.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spartak (Rus)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Willem (Net)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP H

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15

Chelsea vs. AC Milan
Galatasaray vs. Hertha Berlin

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

Hertha Berlin vs. Chelsea
AC Milan vs. Galatasaray

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

AC Milan vs. Hertha Berlin
Chelsea vs. Galatasaray

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

Hertha Berlin vs. AC Milan
Galatasaray vs. Chelsea

TUESDAY, OCT. 26

AC Milan vs. Chelsea
Hertha Berlin vs. Galatasaray

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

Chelsea vs. Hertha Berlin
Galatasaray vs. AC Milan

Table

AC Milan (Ita)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chelsea (Eng)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galatasaray (Tur)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hertha Berlin (Ger)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SECOND ROUND

Four Groups of Four
Nov. 24, Dec. 8, March 1, March 8,
March 15, March 22

QUARTER FINALS

FIRST LEG — April 5
SECOND LEG — April 19

SEMI-FINALS

FIRST LEG — May 3
SECOND LEG — May 10

FINAL

Wednesday, May 24
At TBA

FIFA

World Rankings



ZOFF AXES DEL PIERO



Alessandro Del Piero: Left out of squad.



Alessandro Nesta: Central defender.

Italian National coach Dino Zoff has taken one look at Alessandro Del Piero and penciled the Juventus star out of his squad to face Denmark in tomorrow's (Wednesday) Euro 2000 qualifier.

Del Piero may have made a promising return after a nine-month absence following surgery, but he failed last Tuesday to win a place in Zoff's front-line alongside Inter Milan's Christian Vieri.



Italy
1905

The vacancy should go to Vieri's best friend off the pitch, Juventus striker Filippo Inzaghi. AS Roma playmaker Francesco Totti and Fiorentina winger Enrico Chiesa have also been given the nod.

The two surprises are in midfield, where Zoff has called up newcomers Paolo Vanoli, who scored in both Parma's victorious finals last season in the UEFA and Italian Cups, and Jonathan Binotto of Bologna.

The defence will have to be re-shuffled for the Group One match in Naples as team captain Paolo Maldini is out with an injured toe.

His place on the left is likely to go to Lazio's Giuseppe Pancaro, with Fabio Cannavaro and Alessandro Nesta in the middle, and Christian Panucci on the right. Gianluigi Buffon will be between the posts, despite a blunder in his last match which cost Parma two points.

The central midfielders should be Demetrio Albertini and Dino Baggio, with Diego Fuser and Eusebio Di Francesco on the flanks.

Goalkeepers

Gianluigi Buffon (Parma)
Francesco Toldo (Fiorentina)

Defenders

Fabio Cannavaro (Parma)
Paolo Negro (Lazio)
Alessandro Nesta (Lazio)
Giuseppe Pancaro (Lazio)
Christian Panucci (Inter Milan)

Midfielders

Paolo Vanoli (Parma)
Demetrio Albertini (AC Milan)
Massimo Ambrosini (AC Milan)
Dino Baggio (Parma)
Antonio Conte (Juventus)
Eusebio Di Francesco (AS Roma)
Diego Fuser (Parma)
Giuliano Giannichedda (Udinese)
Jonathan Binotto (Bologna)

Strikers

Enrico Chiesa (Fiorentina)
Filippo Inzaghi (Juventus)
Francesco Totti (AS Roma)
Christian Vieri (Inter Milan)



Paolo Maldini: Will be missing because of injury.



Fabio Cannavaro: Central defender.

1	Brazil	68	Costa Rica	136	St Kitts & Nevis
2	France	69	Thailand	137	St Vincent/Gren
3	Czech Republic	70	Zimbabwe	138	Solomon Islands
4	Italy	71	Northern Ireland	139	Hong Kong
5	Germany	72	Mal	140	Ethiopia
6	Argentina	72	Honduras	141	Panama
7	Spain	74	Guatemala	142	Sri Lanka
8	Croatia	74	Nigeria	143	San Marino
9	Mexico	76	Gabon	144	Saint Lucia
10	Romania	77	Algeria	144	Dominica
11	Norway	78	Burkina Faso	146	Gambia
12	Portugal	79	Cuba	147	Bangladesh
13	Netherlands	80	Qatar	148	Antigua & Barbuda
14	England	80	Namibia	149	Lesotho
15	Sweden	82	Guinea	150	Yemen
16	Paraguay	83	Togo	151	Laos
17	Denmark	84	Uzbekistan	152	Niger
17	Colombia	85	Senegal	153	Mauritania
19	Morocco	86	Wales	154	Dominican Rep.
20	Austria	87	Oman	155	Andorra
20	United States	88	Estonia	156	Libya
22	Yugoslavia	89	Armenia	156	Cayman Islands
23	Chile	90	Bosnia-Herz.	158	Rwanda
24	Slovakia	91	El Salvador	159	Kyrgyzstan
25	Ukraine	92	Mozambique	160	Surinam
26	Israel	92	Belarus	161	Maldives
27	Poland	94	Liberia	162	North Korea
28	Russia	95	Albania	163	Botswana
29	Tunisia	96	Congo	164	Nepal
30	South Africa	97	Canada	165	Bermuda
31	Zambia	98	Singapore	166	British Virgin Is.
32	Scotland	99	Kenya	167	Netherlands Ant.
33	Belgium	100	Moldova	168	Eritrea
34	Bulgaria	101	New Zealand	169	Guinea-Bissau
35	Egypt	101	Vietnam	170	Guyana
35	Saudi Arabia	101	Azerbaijan	171	Cambodia
37	Greece	104	Indonesia	172	Chinese Taipei
38	Ireland	105	Haiti	173	Macao
39	South Korea	106	Uganda	174	Tonga
40	Turkey	107	Faroe Islands	175	Cape Verde Islands
41	Peru	108	Iraq	176	Samoa
42	Jamaica	109	Malawi	177	Papua New Guinea
43	Uruguay	109	Venezuela	178	Cook Islands
43	Ghana	111	Syria	179	Philippines
45	Ivory Coast	112	Lebanon	180	Pakistan
45	Japan	113	Barbados	181	Vanuatu
47	Lithuania	114	India	182	Puerto Rico
48	Iceland	115	Sierra Leone	183	Chad
49	Trinidad & Tobago	116	Malaysia	184	Brunei Darussalam
49	Hungary	117	Kazakhstan	185	Seychelles
51	Iran	118	Sudan	186	Aruba
52	Bolivia	119	Tanzania	187	Belize
53	Cameroon	120	Mauritius	187	Bahamas
54	Switzerland	121	Myanmar	189	Nicaragua
55	Kuwait	121	Grenada	190	US Virgin Islands
56	Angola	121	Malta	191	Palestine
57	Ecuador	124	Bahrain	192	Djibouti
58	China	125	Turkmenistan	193	Turks & Caicos Is.
59	Congo DR (Zaire)	126	Fiji	194	Equatorial Guinea
59	Finland	127	Jordan	195	Sao Tome e Pr.
61	Slovenia	127	Luxembourg	196	Somalia
61	AUSTRALIA	129	Tajikistan	197	Central African R
63	Latvia	130	Tahiti	198	American Samoa
64	United Arab	131	Burundi	198	Mongolia
64	Emirates	132	Madagascar	200	Guam
64	Georgia	133	Liechtenstein	201	Anguilla
66	FYR Macedonia	133	Benin	201	Montserrat
67	Cyprus	135	Swaziland		

Note: Teams inactive since 1991 and teams which have not played yet do not appear in the table.



CNN/WORLD SOCCER TOP 10

(August 30 rankings)

Rk.	Team	Country	Pts.
1 (1)	Manchester Utd	England	99
2 (7)	Lazio	Italy	91
3 (2)	Barcelona	Spain	85
4 (4)	Real Madrid	Spain	67
5 (—)	Inter Milan	Italy	62
6 (10)	Rangers	Scotland	43
7 (3)	Boca Juniors	Argentina	37
8 (—)	Chelsea	England	33
9 (—)	Juventus	Italy	30
10 (—)	Feyenoord	Holland	27
11 (—)	Monaco	France	27

(Last week's rank in parentheses)

Dropping out: Bayern Munich, Parma, Corinthians, AC Milan.

Lazio of Italy may have beaten Manchester United in the European Super Cup, but it couldn't dislodge the Champions League title-holders from the top spot in the CNN/World Soccer Top 10, a unique list of club football teams issued each week and determined through voting by correspondents from CNN Sports and World Soccer magazine.

Treble-winning Manchester United has held the top spot for each of the poll's four weeks. With its 1-0 win over Man U, Cup Winners Cup holder Lazio moves up five spots to second.

The Top 10 sees its most drastic shakeup to date in week four, with the European season kicking into high gear after the Champions League draw and the start of the Italian Serie A.

Dropping from the poll last week were: Bayern Munich, which has started slow in Germany's Bundesliga; Corinthians, despite staying perfect after seven games in Brazil's championship; Parma, which drew its first league game and lost out on a Champions League spot to Rangers; and AC Milan.

Coming in at third and fourth, respectively, are Spanish powers Barcelona and Real Madrid. Both teams have the maximum six points after two games in Spain's first division.

Ranking fifth, and making its first appearance in the Top 10, is Italy's Inter Milan, which opened its league season with a 3-0 win over Serie A newcomer Verona.

Scotland's Rangers — thoroughly dominating in its domestic league — rises four spots to sixth after earning a spot in the Champions League with a 2-1 aggregate result against Parma.

Next in the list is Argentine league double winner Boca Juniors.

At number eight, Chelsea becomes the first English team other than Man United to make the list, followed by fellow newcomer Juventus of Italy at number nine.

Rounding out the list in a tie for 10th are two more teams making their first appearances: defending Dutch champion Feyenoord, untouched so far in its domestic league, and Monaco, which sits atop the French first division table.

BASLER FINED FOR LATE PARTYING

'Every time you go into a disco or bar there's a journalist or photographer waiting there for you.'

Bayern Munich midfielder Mario Basler was handed a hefty 20,000 mark (about \$20,000) fine after partying until the early hours before the August 28 match against SpVgg Unterhaching.

The 30-year-old Basler, who has been involved in a row over salary demands, celebrated injured Liverpool midfielder Dietmar Hamann's birthday in a Munich disco until 2.30 a.m. Friday morning, Bild newspaper reported last Tuesday.

"I know I made a mistake. I just lost track of time," Basler said.

Basler complained that it was hard to be a professional footballer these days.

"You can't do anything," Basler told Germany's InfoRadio. "Every time you go into a disco or a bar there's a journalist or a photographer waiting there for you."

Bild speculated that Bayern may now try to swap Basler for Kaiserslautern's playmaker Ciriaco Sforza, who has made critical remarks about trainer Otto Rehhagel recently.

The disco fine is the latest incident in Basler's controversial social life.

In February, Basler got into a scuffle with a guest in a restaurant near Munich.

He said the guest had tried to touch his wife, Iris.

Last October he was fined by Bayern for spending too much time at the Oktoberfest beer festival.

During the 1997 season, Bayern Munich hired a private detective to watch his whereabouts.

He was dropped from the German national team after a poor performance in a friendly last season was attributed to his staying up late playing cards the night before.

The incident is more unwelcome publicity for Bayern Munich, known as "FC Hollywood" for the prima donna behavior of some of their star players.

Bayern President Franz Beckenbauer was philosophical about the player whose goals helped the team to the European Cup final last season where it was narrowly beaten by Manchester United.

"Footballers deal with their frustrations in different ways. One guy will put on his training gear and go for a run in the forest.

Another guy will go to the disco," Beckenbauer said.

Man U signs Serie A 'keeper



Massimo Taibi: Bids farewell to Venezia fans in his final game.

European champions Manchester United completed the signing of Italian Serie A goalkeeper Massimo Taibi last Tuesday.

Taibi, who has joined United from Venezia in a deal which is worth a reported 4.5 million pounds (\$11.5-million), has signed a four-year contract.

United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has moved for Taibi to increase competi-



tion among his goalkeepers.

Ferguson has turned to 36-year-old Raimond van der Gouw to cover for the injured Mark Bosnich.

When van der Gouw was injured at the end of United's 2-1 English Premiership win over Arsenal, United had to call on the services of substitute goalkeeper Nicky Culkin, who they signed from York City.

But the Treble winners have pulled out of negotiations with Deportivo La Coruna for their Moroccan international defender Nouredine Naybet.

United has called off its pursuit of Naybet because it could not clinch a deal before the Champions League transfer deadline at midnight last Tuesday.

TROUBLE AT VILLA PARK

Manager, chairman and even players trade verbal blows



Aston Villa's impressive start to the Premiership season is under threat from a fast deteriorating relationship between manager John Gregory and his chairman Doug Ellis.

Gregory's dissatisfaction with what he sees as unnecessary and harmful meddling from his chairman is such that he would even be ready to walk away from the club if he received a tempting offer from elsewhere.

Predictably, Gregory — on a £500,000-a-year (\$1.25m) four-year contract — was keeping a low profile last week.

But a source close to the 45-year-old said: "John is becoming more frustrated at what is happening at Villa Park.

"He loves the Villa fans and wants them to know it's nothing to do with them. But he is not happy at the moment, far from it."

Gregory began this season as the Premiership's second favourite with bookmakers for the sack but has put the disappointment of last term's end-of-season slump behind him to lead his side to the higher reaches of the Premiership once more.

It was his side's 1-0 win at St James' Park on the opening day of the season that exacerbated Ruud Gullit's troubles in the North East and Villa have since built on that with victories over Everton, Watford and Middlesbrough.

Gregory failed to appear for the Press conference after his team's 1-0 win over Middlesbrough on August 28 and it later emerged that he had a heated exchange with Ellis.

Gregory was upset to hear his chairman talking only of the fact that only 28,000 had turned up for

controversial chairmen in the British game is beginning to show.

Gregory appreciates that Ellis has backed him to the hilt in the transfer market in letting him spend a gross £37 million (\$92m) on players in his 17 months in charge at the club.

Despite losing players of the calibre of Dwight Yorke and Mark Bosnich, Gregory has been given the freedom to spend a net £9m (\$22.5m) to replace them with the likes of Dion Dublin, David James, George Boateng and Paul Merson.



Mark Draper: Would consider any offers to leave Villa.

the game.

And his frustration in working for one of the most high-profile and

But the manager is still bitter that the club didn't manage to finalise a deal to bring Juninho to Villa Park

last season and is perhaps regretting he didn't try harder to persuade Ellis to find the £6m (\$15m) needed to bring Robbie Keane in from Wolves.

Ellis said: "I have never refused to back my managers in the transfer market and I will continue to do my best to back John Gregory.

"I have allowed John to spend almost £40m (\$100m) on players in his time at the club and I think that shows our ambition. Nobody could accuse this club of not thinking big."

Gregory is not the first Villa manager to come in to conflict with Ellis, the Midlands businessman known as 'Deadly'.

Ellis and Ron Atkinson, for example, traded blows through the pages of their respective autobiographies only last year.

But Gregory is different as he is the first for some time to come close to bringing Ellis what he so dearly wants for his club, continued success.

For him to consider walking away from Villa would be a mortal blow to those in Birmingham who have waited since the European Cup win of 1982 for tangible success.

Buck Chinn, chairman of the Villa Shareholders' Association, said last week: "John Gregory is a big favourite at this club and we are 100 per cent behind him. Who can we possibly get at Villa if he goes?"

"There will be mass dissatisfaction if John goes and I know because I will be starting it."

To add to the feeling of discontent at Villa Park, midfielder Mark Draper is considering asking for a move because of a lack of first-team football.

Draper, 28, has made just one substitute appearance so far this season and would give consideration to any bids that were made for him.



Ron Atkinson: Attacked his former club Aston Villa in his autobiography.

The former Notts County and Leicester City playmaker is the first of Villa's high-profile players to speak out about not being a regular in the side as Gregory operates a squad system at Villa Park.

Draper said: "I don't know if any clubs have been in for me or not, but I can't go on playing in the reserves for ever.

"I am getting frustrated with the situation because I want to play and feel I could help the team.

"At the moment there is nothing that I can do and I will keep my head down and play as well as I can.

"But if a bid comes in I will have to sit down and think very seriously about it.

"I can understand the need for having a large squad and rotating the players but at the moment I have not been given a fair chance."

"There will be mass dissatisfaction if John goes and I know because I will be starting it."



54 day contract

Helmer loves and leaves Sunderland

Tomas Helmer's stay in the English Premier League ended after just 54 days last Tuesday when the former German international was signed by Bundesliga club Hertha Berlin.

The 34-year-old Helmer, who moved to Sunderland in July after being dropped by Bayern Munich, made use of an agreement he made with Sunderland that he could leave immediately if another club came along which was represented internationally.

Hertha Berlin have qualified for the Champions League and have drawn AC Milan, Galatasaray Istanbul and Chelsea as its group opponents.

"I am glad that I can play in the Bundesliga and Champions League with Hertha, it's going to be a big challenge for me," Helmer said.



"I also want to thank Sunderland for sticking by our deal."

Hertha was forced to make the transfer because of long term injuries to four key defenders.

"Thomas Helmer brings with him a great deal of international experience which is why he can help us in our current situation, especially in the Champions League," Hertha coach Jurgen Rober explained.

"Under the current circumstances he is the ideal solution," club manager Dieter Hoeness added.

Helmer was rushed to Berlin last week for a physical check up and then returned to England to pack his belongings.

JUNINHO BACK IN ENGLAND



Juninho: Hoping for a change of luck.

Brazilian midfielder Juninho has joined Middlesbrough for the rest of the season on loan from Atletico Madrid, the player's father confirmed last Tuesday.

"We now have an agreement between the two clubs," Osvaldo Giroldo said. "I believe it's the best solution for all concerned."

Giroldo, who acts as his son's agent, said the only



potential stumbling block could be obtaining a work permit for Juninho, who is currently out of the

Brazilian national squad.

Juninho, who moved from Middlesbrough to Spain for \$19.7 million in 1997, fell out of favour during his second year at Atletico and came close to a move back to England.

He decided to stay on only to find himself surplus to requirements in the eyes of new coach Claudio Ranieri, who took over at the start of the season.



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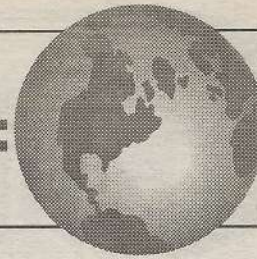
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ITALY'S FOREIGN INVASION

A list of foreign players with Italian teams in the 1999-2000 Serie A season which kicked off on August 28

(x indicates newly signed players):

Bari	Bologna	Cagliari	Fiorentina	Internazionale	Juventus
x-Raphael Chukwu, Nig, for; x-Hugo Enyinnaya, Nig, for; x-Diego Fernando Markic, Arg, mid; Daniel Andersson, Swe, mid; Michael Madsen, Den, def; Philemon Masinga, SA, for; Yksel Osmanovski, Swe, for; Hany Said, Egy, def.	x-Teddy Lucic, Swe, def; x-Pierre Wome, Cam, def; x-Ze Elias, Bra, mid; Eriberto de Conceicao, Bra, for; Klas Ingesson, Swe, mid; Igor Kolyvanov, Rus, for; Cristophe Sanchez, Fra, for.	x-Jason Mayele, Zai, for; x-David Velasquez Duazo, Hon, for; x-Francois Modesto, Fra, def; Nelson Abejon, Uru, mid; Diego Lopez, Uru, def; Patrick Mboma, Cam, for; David Nyathi, SA, def; Fabian O'Neill, Uru, mid.	x-Abel Balbo, Arg, for; x-Predrag Mijatovic, Yug, for; x-Paul Okon, Aust, mid; Jorg Heinrich, Ger, def; Guillermo Amor, Spa, mid; Manuel Rui Costa, Por, mid; Gabriel Batistuta, Arg, for; Luis Oliveira, Bel, for.	x-Laurent Blanc, Fra, def; x-Cyril Domoraud, Fra, def; x-Vladimir Jugovic, Yug, mid; x-Alvaro Recoba, Uru, for; x-Martin Rivas, Uru, def; x-Ousmane Dabo, Fra, mid; x-Grigorios Georgatos, Gre, def; Zoumana Camara, Fra, def; Benoit Cavet, Fra, mid; Paulo Sousa, Por, mid; Ronaldo, Bra, for; Michael Syvestre, Fra, def; Ivan Zamorano, Chi, for; Javier Zanetti, Arg, mid.	x-Andreas Isaksson, Swe, GK; x-Darko Kovacevic, Yugo, for; x-Ronnie O'Brien, Ire, mid; x-Sunday Oliseh, Nig, mid; x-Edwin Van der Sar, Net, GK; Edgar Davids, Net, mid; Juan Esnaider, Arg, for; Daniel Fonseca, Uru, for; Zoran Morkovic, Yug, def; Paolo Montero, Uru, def; Igor Tudor, Cro, def; Zinedine Zidane, Fra, mid.
Lazio	Lecce	AC Milan	Parma	Perugia	Reggina
x-Kennet Andersson, Swe, for; x-Nestor Sensini, Arg, def; x-Diego Simeone, Arg, mid; x-Juan Sebastian Veron, Arg, mid; Matias Almeyda, Arg, mid; Alen Boksic, Cro, for; Manuel Fernando Couto, Por, def; Sinisa Mihajlovic, Yug, def; Pavel Nedved, Cze, mid; Marcelo Salas, Chi, for; Sergio Conceicao, Por, mid; Dejan Stankovic, Yug, mid.	x-Sergij Atelkin, Ukr, for; x-Francisco Lima, Bra, mid; Jean Pierre Cyprien, Fra, def; Mark Edusei, Gha, mid; David Sesa, Swi, for	x-Sergio Serginho, Bra, def; x-Andriy Shevchenko, Ukr, for; Fabian Ayala, Arg, def Ibrahim Ba, Fra, mid; Oliver Bierhoff, Ger, for; Zvonimir Boban, Cro, mid; Andres Guglielminpietro, Arg, mid; Thomas Helveg, Den, mid; Leonardo, Bra, for; Mohammed Aliyu, Nig, for; Bruno Ngoty, Fra, def; George Weah, Lib, for.	x-Marcio Amoroso, Bra, for; x-Saliou Lassissi, IC, def; x-Johnner Montano, Col, for; x-Ariel Ortega, Arg, mid; x-Johan Walem, Bel, mid; Alain Boghossian, Fra, mid; Hernan Crespo, Arg, for; Mario Stanic, Bos, for; Lilian Thuram, Fra, def.	x-Jorge Eladio Bolano, Col, mid; x-Paulinho Neves Hilario, Por, def; x-Hector Santiago apia, Chi, for; Hidetoshi Nakata, Jap, mid; Milan Rapajc, Cro, for.	x-Mohamed Kallon, SL, for; x-Arnauld Mercier, Fra, def; Serge Die, IC, mid.
AS Roma	Torino	Udinese	Venezia	Verona	Piacenza
x-Serguei Gurenko, Bela, def; x-Marcos Assuncao, Bra, mid; Aldair, Bra, def; Dmitr Alenichev, Rus, mid; Marcos Cafu, Bra, defe; Vincent Candela, Fra, def; Fabio Junior, Bra, for; Michael Konsel, Aus, GK; Ivan Tomic, Yug, mid; Antonio Carlos Zago, Bra, def.	x-Andre Cruz, Bra, def; x-Djabril Diawara, Fra, mid; x-Erik Edman, Swe, def; x-Ilija Ivic, Yugo, for; x-Marcus Lantz, Swe, mid; x-Gustavo Mendez, Uru, mid.	x-Marjari Budimir, Cro, def; x-Jorge Amaral Jorginho, Bra, mid; x-Mauricio Pineda, Arg, mid; x-David Pizarro, Chi, mid; x-Olivier Renard, Bel, GK; x-Delio Cesar Toledo, Par, def; x-Da Silva Waley, Bra, for; Morten Bisgaard, Den, mid; Mohammed Gargo, Gha, def; Regis Genaux, Bel, midfr; Martin Jorgensen, Den, mid; Roberto Sosa, Arg, for; Henry Van der Vegt, Net, mid.	x-Igor Budan, Cro, for; x-Hiroshi Nanami, Jap, mid; x-Dejan Petkovic, Yug, for; x-Gerhard Poschner, Ger, mid.	x-Martins Adailton, Bra, for; x-Sebastien Frey, Fra, GK; x-Anthony Seric, Cro, def; x-Robert Spehar, Cro, for; Martin Laursen, Swe, def; Tonci Zilic, Cro, def.	The 18th Serie A team fields an all-Italian team.

Scotland without Rangers and Celtic



Dundee manager Jocky Scott said last Wednesday that many of the lower clubs in the Scottish Premier League wish Rangers and Celtic to be expelled because they are too dominating and have monopolised the funds and the fan base from the rest of the league.

Scott said that the gap between the league's top two teams and remaining eight clubs has become so wide that it has hurt competition.

One proposal made by Scott was that the two sides join the English Premier League — easily a more competitive league top to bottom than Scotland's top flight.

The huge budgets available to Rangers and Celtic have given the clubs a much greater spending power to buy top talent and has essentially made the run for the Scottish title a two-team race.

After just five matches into the new season, Rangers — holders for 10 out of the last 11 seasons — are already seven points ahead of third-place Dundee United.

Scott also complained about supporter numbers. With both Rangers and Celtic entertaining more than 50,000 fans per match, not much of a base is left for the eight remaining teams. Dundee officials said they are lucky if 4,500 show up for home matches.

The league expects an upset result every once in a while, but from week to week, the rift between the top and the bottom of the Scottish table leaves the managers of lesser clubs fighting for finances and fans.

Scott said he imagines other managers agree with him, though realises a move to expel Rangers and Celtic would probably never come to fruition.



**ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE**

1. Manchester United	6	5	1	0	16	4	16
2. Aston Villa	6	4	1	1	8	3	13
3. Chelsea	4	3	1	0	8	2	10
4. West Ham United	4	3	1	0	8	3	10
5. Leicester City	6	3	1	2	9	6	10
6. Leeds United	6	3	1	2	8	6	10
7. Arsenal	6	3	1	2	7	6	10
8. Tottenham Hotspur	5	3	0	2	9	7	9
9. Liverpool	5	3	0	2	6	4	9
10. Southampton	5	3	0	2	8	9	9
11. Middlesbrough	6	3	0	3	7	8	9
12. Sunderland	6	2	2	2	6	8	8
13. Everton	6	2	1	3	11	9	7
14. Derby County	6	2	1	3	5	7	7
15. Watford	6	2	0	4	4	7	6
16. Coventry City	6	1	2	3	5	6	5
17. Wimbledon	6	1	2	3	9	14	5
18. Bradford City	5	1	1	3	2	7	4
19. Newcastle United	6	0	1	5	8	18	1
20. Sheffield Wed	6	0	1	5	3	13	1

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Bolton	3	-	3	Birmingham
Port Vale	3	-	1	Grimsby
Crewe	P	-	P	West Brom
Fulham	P	-	P	Portsmouth
Huddersfield	P	-	P	Ipswich
Norwich	P	-	P	Man City
Nottm Forest	4	-	1	Walsall
Sheff Utd	3	-	1	Crystal Palace
Stockport	P	-	P	QPR
Swindon	P	-	P	Blackburn
Wolverhampton	P	-	P	Charlton
Barnsley	3	-	0	Tranmere
Port Vale	P	-	P	Grimsby

TABLE

1 Ipswich	5	4	1	0	16	5	13
2 Birmingham	6	3	2	1	15	10	11
3 Man City	5	3	1	1	8	1	10
4 Barnsley	6	3	0	3	15	13	9
5 West Brom	5	2	3	0	6	4	9
6 Stockport	4	3	0	1	5	3	9
7 QPR	5	2	2	1	9	7	8
8 Nottm Forest	6	2	2	2	9	8	8
9 Portsmouth	5	2	2	1	5	7	8
10 Sheff Utd	6	2	2	2	9	13	8
11 Huddersfield	5	2	1	2	11	7	7
12 Fulham	5	1	4	0	5	4	7
13 Port Vale	6	2	1	3	9	10	7
14 Charlton	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
15 Walsall	6	1	3	2	7	12	6
16 Crewe	3	1	2	0	6	3	5
17 Wolverhampton	4	1	2	1	4	4	5
18 Bolton	5	1	2	2	5	6	5
19 Grimsby	6	1	2	3	5	8	5
20 Blackburn	4	1	1	2	5	5	4
21 Swindon	5	1	1	3	4	8	4
22 Tranmere	6	1	1	4	3	9	4
23 Crystal Palace	5	1	1	3	7	15	4
24 Norwich	5	0	2	3	3	7	2

DIVISION TWO

Brentford	P	-	P	Cardiff
Bristol City	5	-	2	Blackpool
Cambridge	1	-	3	Stoke
Colchester	P	-	P	Wigan
Gillingham	2	-	1	Oldham
Luton	1	-	1	Bury
Millwall	P	-	P	Reading
Oxford	0	-	0	Wycombe
Preston	0	-	2	Chesterfield
Scunthorpe	0	-	2	Bristol Rovers
Burnley	2	-	1	Bournemouth
Wrexham	2	-	3	Notts County

TABLE

1 Bristol Rovers	6	4	1	1	6	2	13
2 Burnley	6	4	1	1	7	4	13
3 Wigan	5	3	2	0	13	6	11
4 Notts County	5	3	2	0	10	3	11
5 Luton	6	3	2	1	7	5	11
6 Wrexham	6	3	1	2	8	7	10
7 Bury	6	2	3	1	11	8	9
8 Bournemouth	6	3	0	3	10	9	9
9 Brentford	4	2	2	0	6	2	8
10 Oxford	6	2	2	2	6	8	8
11 Preston	6	2	2	2	7	10	8
12 Bristol City	5	2	1	2	11	8	7
13 Chesterfield	5	2	1	2	8	6	7
14 Stoke	6	2	1	3	9	8	7
15 Wycombe	6	1	4	1	5	5	7
16 Cardiff	5	1	3	1	6	6	6
17 Gillingham	6	1	3	2	7	8	6

18 Colchester	5	2	0	3	6	14	6
19 Cambridge	6	1	2	3	9	12	5
20 Blackpool	6	1	2	3	8	13	5
21 Reading	5	1	1	3	8	11	4
22 Scunthorpe	6	1	1	4	4	11	4
23 Millwall	4	0	3	1	6	8	3
24 Oldham	5	0	0	5	1	7	0

DIVISION THREE

Barnet	2	-	1	Macclesfield
Plymouth	3	-	3	Brighton
Darlington	1	-	0	Exeter
Hartlepool	1	-	2	Southend
Northampton	0	-	0	Carlisle
Rotherham	1	-	0	York
Swansea	P	-	P	Cheltenham
Torquay	5	-	2	Lincoln
Hull City	2	-	1	Chester
Leyton Orient	1	-	2	Shrewsbury
Mansfield	3	-	1	Peterborough
Rochdale	0	-	1	Halifax

TABLE

1 Barnet	6	4	2	0	14	7	14
2 Exeter	6	4	1	1	9	4	13
3 Darlington	6	4	1	1	9	5	13
4 Rochdale	6	4	0	2	9	3	12
5 Swansea	5	4	0	1	7	3	12
6 Peterborough	6	4	0	2	11	9	12
7 Brighton	6	3	2	1	15	6	11
8 Torquay	6	3	2	1	10	7	11
9 Rotherham	6	3	1	2	12	6	10
10 Northampton	6	3	1	2	4	2	10
11 Southend	6	3	1	2	7	8	10
12 Halifax	6	3	0	3	5	3	9
13 Cheltenham	5	3	0	2	4	4	9
14 Plymouth	6	2	2	2	9	10	8
15 Carlisle	6	2	2	2	7	8	8
16 Macclesfield	6	2	1	3	7	10	7
17 Lincoln	6	1	2	3	5	9	5
18 Shrewsbury	6	1	2	3	3	8	5
19 Hartlepool	6	1	1	4	5	7	4
20 Leyton Orient	6	1	1	4	6	9	4
21 Hull City	6	1	1	4	5	10	4
22 Mansfield	6	1	1	4	4	11	4
23 York	6	1	1	4	4	11	4
24 Chester	6	0	1	5	3	14	1

FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

1 Stevenage	7	6	0	1	14	3	18
2 Morecambe	7	4	2	1	12	6	14
3 Hednesford	7	4	2	1	7	5	14
4 Kingstonsian	7	4	1	2	14	9	13
5 Yeovil	7	4	1	2	12	10	13
6 Nuneaton	7	3	3	1	10	8	12
7 Rushden & D	6	3	2	1	13	6	11
8 Scarborough	7	3	2	2	11	7	11
9 Southport	7	3	2	2	13	12	11
10 Northwich	6	3	2	1	9	8	11
11 Hereford	7	2	3	2	16	15	9
12 Telford	7	2	3	2	9	11	9
13 Dover	7	2	3	2	10	13	9
14 Doncaster	7	2	2	3	11	14	8
15 Kettering	7	2	2	3	7	12	8
16 Altrincham	6	2	1	3	8	7	7
17 Woking	7	2	1	4	9	13	7
18 Kidderminster	6	2	0	4	11	13	6
19 Hayes	7	1	2	4	5	9	5
20 Forest Green	6	1	0	5	7	12	3
21 Welling	7	1	0	6	9	16	3
22 Sutton	6	0	2	4	2	10	2

FRENCH FIRST DIVISION

1. Monaco	5	3	1	1	12	5	10
2. Paris St-Germain	5	3	1	1	7	4	10
3. Olympique Lyon	5	3	1	1	7	5	10
4. AJ Auxerre	5	3	1	1	8	7	10
5. Nantes	5	3	0	2	7	3	9
6. Strasbourg	5	3	0	2	6	6	9
7. Girondins Bordeaux	5	2	2	1	10	6	8
8. Olympique Marseille	5	1	4	0	7	4	7
9. RC Lens	5	2	1	2	3	3	7
10. Bastia	5	2	1	2	8	9	7
11. Nancy	5	2	0	3	8	8	6
12. Sedan	5	2	0	3	8	8	6
13. Metz	5	1	2	2	4	3	5
14. St Etienne	5	1	2	2	9	11	5
15. Rennes	5	1	2	2	6	8	5
16. Le Havre	5	1	1	3	3	7	4
17. Montpellier	5	1	1	3	6	11	4
18. Troyes	5	1	0	4	3	11	3

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

1. Hamburg SV	3	2	1	0	8	3	7
2. Bayer Leverkusen	3	2	1	0	4	1	7
3. Eintracht Frankfurt	3	2	1	0	8	4	7
4. VfL Wolfsburg	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
5. Hertha BSC	3	1	2	0	7	4	5

6. Arminia Bielefeld	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
7. SC Freiburg	3	1	1	1	6	4	4
8. Bayern Munich	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
9. Schalke 04	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
10. Borussia Dortmund	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
11. TSV 1860 Munich	3	1	0	2	5	6	3
12. SpVgg Unterhaching	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
13. Hansa Rostock	3	1	0	2	6	9	3
14. FC Kaiserslautern	3	1	0	2	3	6	3
15. Werder Bremen	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
16. MSV Duisburg	3	0	2	1	2	4	2
17. SSV Ulm	3	0	2	1	3	6	2
18. VfB Stuttgart	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

DUTCH FIRST DIVISION

1. Feyenoord	3	3	0	0	11	1	9
2. PSV Eindhoven	3	3	0	0	12	3	9
3. Ajax Amsterdam	3	3	0	0	12	4	9
4. Willem II Tilburg	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
5. AZ Alkmaar	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
6. Utrecht	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
7. Twente Enschede	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
9. Roda JC Kerkrade	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
8. RKC Waalwijk	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
10. Vitesse Arnhem	3	1	1	1	8	9	4
11. Heerenveen	3	1	0	2	6	7	3
12. Graafschap	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
13. Fortuna Sittard	3	0	1	2	4	6	1
14. Den Bosch	3	0	1	2	2	7	1
15. Cambuur Leeuwarden	3	0	1	2	1	8	1
16. Sparta Rotterdam	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
17. NEC Nijmegen	3	0	0	3	5	9	0
18. MVV Maastricht	3	0	0	3	5	16	0

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

1. Rangers	5	5	0	0	15	3	15
2. Celtic	5	4	0	1	15	3	12
3. Dundee United	5	2	2	1	7	8	8
4. St Johnstone	5	2	1	2	7	8	7
5. Hearts	5	2	1	2	8	10	7
6. Dundee	5	2	0	3	9	8	6
7. Hibernian	5	1	3	1	8	8	6
8. Motherwell	5	1	2	2	6	10	5
9. Kilmarnock	5	1	1	3	3	5	4
10. Aberdeen	5	0	0	5	0	15	0

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

WORLD

GROUP 1

Belarus	1	Wales	2
Belarus - Vasily Baranov 30			
Wales - Dean Saunders 42, Ryan Giggs 86			
Halftime 1-1; Attendance: 25,000			
Denmark	2	Switzerland	1
Denmark - Allan Nielsen 54, Jon Dahl Tomasson 81			
Switzerland - Kubilay Tuerkylmaz 79			
Halftime: 0-0; Attendance: 41,667			
Italy	6	4	2
Denmark	7	3	2
Wales	7	3	0
Switzerland	6	2	2
Belarus	6	0	2

GROUP 2

Albania	3	Latvia	3
Albania - Alban Bushi 29, 78, Devi Muka 90			
Latvia - Vitalis Astafjevs 20, 62, Andrejs Stolcers 70			
Halftime: 1-1			
Norway	1	Greece	0
Oyvind Leonhardsen 34			
Halftime: 1-0; Att: 23,000			
Slovenia	2	Georgia	1
Slovenia - Milenko Acimovic 48, Zlatko Zahovic 80			
Georgia - Shota Arveladze 55			
HT: 0-0; Att: 8,500			
Norway	8	6	1
Slovenia	8	5	2
Latvia	8	3	3
Greece	8	2	3
Albania	8	0	4
Georgia	8	1	1

GROUP 3

Northern Ireland	0	Turkey	3
Arif Erdem 45, 46, 48			
Halftime: 0-1; Att: 7,270			
Finland	1	Germany	2
Finland - Janne Salli 63			
Germany - Oliver Bierhoff 2, 17			
Halftime: 0-2; Att: 20,184			
Germany	6	5	0
Turkey	6	5	0
Finland	7	2	1
Northern Ireland	6	1	2
Moldova	7	0	3

GROUP 4

Iceland	3	Andorra	0
Thordur Gudjonsson 29, Hermann Hreidarsson 32, Eidur Gudjohnsen 90			
Halftime: 2-0; Att: 5,100			
Russia	2	Armenia	0
Vladimir Beschastnyh 8pen, Valery Karpin 70			
Halftime: 1-0; Att: 40,000			
In Kiev			
Ukraine	0	France	0
Att: 70,000			
Ukraine	8	4	4
Russia	8	5	0
Iceland	8	4	3
France	8	4	3
Armenia	8	1	2
Andorra	8	0	0

GROUP 5

England	6	Luxembourg	0
Alan Shearer 12pen, 28, 34, Steve McManaman 30, 44, Michael Owen 90			
Halftime: 5-0; Att: 68,772			
Sweden	1	Bulgaria	0
Niklas Alexandersson 65			
Red card: Milan Petkov (Bulgaria) 60			
Halftime: 0-0; Att: 35,640			
Sweden	6	5	1
England	7	3	3
Poland	6	4	0
Bulgaria	7	1	2
Luxembourg	6	0	0

GROUP 6

Austria	1	Spain	3
Austria - Fernando Hierro 49og			
Spain - Raul Gonzalez 22, Fernando Hierro 56, Luis			

Enrique 88

Half Time: 0-1; Att: 27,000

Cyprus	3	Israel	2
Cyprus: Panayotis Engomitis 27, Milenko Spoljaric 53			
86pen			
Israel: Walid Badir 31, Yossi Benayoun 82			
Halftime: 1-1; Attendance: 16,000			
Spain	6	5	0
Cyprus	6	4	0
Israel	6	3	1
Austria	7	3	1
San Marino	7	0	0

GROUP 7

Liechtenstein	0	Hungary	0
Att: 1,700			
Slovakia	1	Romania	5
Slovakia - Vladimir Labant 22			
Romania - Adrian Ilie 6, Gheorghe Hagi 30, Liviu Ciobotariu 66, Viorel Moldovan 88, 90			
Halftime: 1-2			
Azerbaijan	1	Portugal	1
Azerbaijan - Zaur Tagizade 51			
Portugal - Luis Figo 90			
Red card: Zaur Tagizade (Azerbaijan) 84			
Halftime: 0-0; Att: 8,000			
Romania	8	6	2
Portugal	8	6	1
Slovakia	8	3	2
Hungary	8	2	3
Azerbaijan	8	1	1
Liechtenstein	8	1	1

GROUP 8

Croatia	1	Ireland	0
Scorer: Davor Suker 90			
Halftime: 0-0; Att: 30,000			
Yugoslavia	3	Macedonia	1
Yugoslavia - Dragan Stojkovic 37 54, Dejan Savicevic 77			
Macedonia - Sasa Ciric 64 (pen)			
Halftime: 1-0; Attendance: 22,000			
Croatia	7	4	2
Yugoslavia	6	4	1
Ireland	6	4	0
Macedonia	6	2	1
Malta	7	0	0

Remaining matches:

September 8

Macedonia	v	Yugoslavia
Malta	v	Ireland

October 10

Croatia	v	Yugoslavia
Macedonia	v	Ireland

GROUP 9

Bosnia	1	Scotland	2
Bosnia - Elvir Bolic 23			
Scotland - Don Hutchison 13, Billy Dodds 45			
Halftime: 1-2; Att: 26,000			
Faroe Islands	0	Estonia	2
Martin Reim 88, Raio Piiroja 90			
Halftime: 0-0; Att: 2,300			
Lithuania	0	Czech Republic	4
Pavel Nedved 60, 63, Jan Koller 68, 90			
Halftime: 0-0; Att: 3,000			
Czech Republic	8	8	0
Scotland	7	3	2
Estonia	8	3	1
Bosnia	7	2	2
Lithuania	8	2	2
Faroe Islands	8	0	3

Remaining matches:

September 8

Czech Republic	v	Bosnia
Faroe Islands	v	Lithuania
Estonia	v	Scotland

October 5

Scotland	v	Bosnia
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October 9

Estonia	v	Bosnia
Czech Republic	v	Faroe Islands
Scotland	v	Lithuania



All times are Australian Eastern Standard Time

Tuesday, September 7

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Slovakia v Romania
Optus Vision, ESPN
11pm - 1am

Brazilian National Championship

Optus Vision, ESPN
5pm - 7pm

Wednesday, September 8

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Northern Ireland v Turkey
Optus Vision, ESPN
12pm - 2pm

Euro 2000 Qualifiers

Lithuania v Czech Republic
Optus Vision, ESPN
5pm - 7pm

Major League Soccer

Kansas City v New England
Optus Vision, ESPN
10am - 12pm

Euro 2000 Qualifier

Cyprus v Israel
Optus Vision, ESPN
12am-2am (Thursday morning)

Thursday, September 9

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Moldova v Turkey (LIVE)
Optus Vision, ESPN
4.25am - 6.30am

Friday, September 10

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Bosnia-Herzegovina v Scotland
Optus Vision, ESPN
1pm - 3pm

Euro 2000 Qualifier

Yugoslavia v FYR Macedonia
Optus Vision, ESPN
11pm - 1am

German Bundesliga

Optus Vision, C7 Sport 13
9.30pm - 11.30pm

Soccer Scene

Fox Sports
10pm - 11pm

Saturday, September 11

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Belarus v Wales
Optus Vision, ESPN
3am - 5am

Euro 2000 Qualifiers

Czech Republic v Bosnia-Herzegovina
Optus Vision, ESPN
3pm - 5pm

Euro 2000 Qualifier

Luxembourg v Sweden
Optus Vision, ESPN
9pm - 11pm

English Nationwide League

Barnsley v Stockport (LIVE)

TV GUIDE

Optus Vision, C7 Sport 13
10am - 12 noon

English Premier League
Liverpool v Manchester United (LIVE)
Fox Sports 2
8pm - 10.30pm

English Premier League
Fox Sports (LIVE)
11.55pm - 2am

French First Division
Lyon v PSG
SBS, World Soccer
4.30pm-5.30pm

English Premier League (Repeat)
SBS
5.30pm-6.30pm

Sunday, September 12

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Czech Republic v Bosnia-Herzegovina
Optus Vision, ESPN
6am - 8am

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Armenia v France
Optus Vision, ESPN
3pm - 5pm

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Greece v Albania
Optus Vision, ESPN
9pm - 11pm

German Bundesliga
Optus Vision, C7 Sport 13
10am - 12 noon

Italian Soccer
SBS
10.30am- 11.30am

English Premier League
Liverpool v Manchester United plus another game
Fox Sports 2
2pm - 6pm.

English Premier League
Bradford v Tottenham (LIVE)
Fox Sports
12am - 3.30am (Monday Morning)

Monday, September 13

Euro 2000 Qualifier
Belarus v Wales
Optus Vision, ESPN
7pm - 9pm

Best of English Soccer
Optus Vision, C7 Sport 12
5pm - 6pm

English Premier League
SBS
7.30pm- 8.30pm

English Premier League
Fox Sports 2
5pm-6pm

English Premier League
Fox Sports
3am-5am (Tuesday morning).

BIG MONEY EARNERS

English Premier League Managers

* TOP TEN SALARIES *

**Ruud Gullit	(Newcastle)	£1.6m	\$4m
Alex Ferguson	(Man Utd)	£1.5m	\$3.75m
George Graham	(Spurs)	£1.1m	\$2.8m
Arsene Wenger	(Arsenal)	£1m	\$2.5m
Gianluca Vialli	(Chelsea)	£1m	\$2.5m
Walter Smith	(Everton)	£850,000	\$2.125m
Bryan Robson	(Middlesbro)	£750,000	\$1.875m
David O'Leary	(Leeds)	£750,000	\$1.875m
Gerard Houllier	(Liverpool)	£600,000	\$1.5m
John Gregory	(Aston Villa)	£500,000	\$1.25m

*Figures obtained from the London-based Sunday Mirror newspaper

**Gullit resigned from his job on August 28

RUUD GULLIT:
Was the premier
League's highest
paid manager.



GIANLUCA VIALLI:
\$2.5m a year.